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A CENTRAL TENET of Harper's political strategy is if the other guy is talking about something, you should take away his begging rights.

Why Harper is heading to Asia



PAUL WELLS

The Conservative campaign around Stephen Harper like to think in terms of "sword nation" and "shield nation." A sword-wielding Conservative can use to gain votes tough on-crime policies, tax cuts, the home renovation tax credit. "Shield issues" are the ones the Conservatives will lose votes on, unless they are clever about protecting themselves.

The environment is the shield issue par excellence. Harper is going to win big with environmentalists. (This is the part of the column where we tell you something you already know.) But he's told a succession of environmental ministers (Roxa Arévalo, John Baird, Jim Prentiss) to narrow their focus at the appropriate moments, so the gap between Liberals and Conservatives doesn't open so wide that voters start to change votes. Same with anti-funding. Cuts to arts programs cost the Conservatives hard-won momentum in Quebec in 2006. So Harper named a new heritage minister, James Moore, and has given him plenty of latitude to make peace with people in the arts and show business.

Later this autumn, Harper will make his first trips to China and India. This move looks like a shield. Michael Ignatieff, the Liberal leader, is forever talking about China and India, and Stephen Harper and Paul Martin and Jean Chrétien before him. "Stephen

Harper hasn't been to India," Ignatieff said at the Toronto Board of Trade in September. "And he refused his only mission to China. Our market there in both countries has fallen since he took office. We've run our first trade deficits in 30 years. We can't afford to keep losing ground."

It's a central tenet of Harper's political strategy that if the other guy is talking about something, you should take away his begging rights. So it came as no surprise when the Prime Minister's Office announced Harper's first trip to India for Nov. 16 to 18, to be followed by a China trip from Dec. 3 to 6. Now the policy of begging rights universalized: Harper who will be able to point out that Ignatieff has been to India since he entered Canadian politics in 2006—and that's not Ignatieff who conceded, in September, his only criticism to China.

But the gap between the Liberals and the Conservatives doesn't end with that rather trivial difference. And the longer you look at what the Conservatives are doing with regard to China—and, to a much greater extent, with India—the more the two countries start to look like Conservative worlds.

China, of course, is a difficult fit for the Conservatives. It is the last important bastion of global Capitalism, and a lot of senior Conservatives, including Trade Minister (David) Day and Immigration Minister Jean Kennedy, are no fans of the Beijing regime.

Harper and Kennedy met the Dalai Lama in 2003, the kind of human rights promotion and events idea, David Emerson, the Vancouver-based, far-right Conservative columnist, seemed like a lovely voice in favour of sustained engagement with China, and he didn't even run again in 2006.

And yet, by mid-century, according to some estimates, China will have passed the United States in the world's largest economy, and there's no way even a stubborn Prime Minister can ignore that kind of performance for long. So Harper is finally getting on a plane—and his office was careful to add that his visit will have followed "10 ministerial-level visits to China since 2006." More than with any other country, relations with China benefit from continuous engagement. If China is worth visiting, Harper's personal reluctance to do the waiting for nearly four years has hurt the bilateral relationship. He is clearly eager to measure, and begin reversing, the damage.

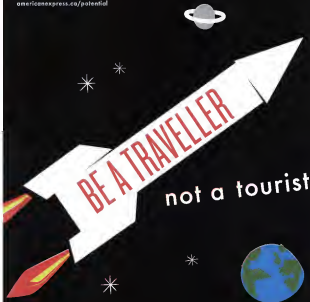
India is another matter. English speaking, Commonwealth member, chaotic and corrupt, but a thriving democracy—what's not to like? Harper's trip, the PMO notes, follows 11 ministerial-level trips since 2006. And during last year's election campaign, he announced plans to open a trade office in the Indian province of Gujarat to go with offices in Hyderabad and Calcutta.

The Liberals essentially bludgeoned Gujarat after Hindu-Muslim violence in 2002 killed 1,000 people there. But the Gujarat constituency in Toronto has tripled in size in a decade, to 145,000 people. It's one of the fastest growing South Asian concentrations in the country. And at the end of September,



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Stock Day traded to Almaden to open the Canadian trade office for Quebec.

This kind of sustained effort and attention will be needed in negotiations for the spring sale, where Liberal incumbent Pierre Gault will face Conservative challenger Pierre Gault by only 777 votes last October. Gault's share of the riding vote experienced a 100-point drop from his 2006 vote. Gault would be the 2006 Conservative candidate by nine points. Any further swing would finish Gault off.

This has been the pattern of Conservative and Liberal behaviour on so many issues for the past five years. The Liberals change their opponents for failing to understand the way the world works, while the Conservatives quietly outmanoeuvre the Liberals. What's just in the past is the future, of course. Ignored could step evenly between Harper and his second branch in a second program to win conservatives that would result, on one outcome, the Conservatives. Of course he could beat the Conservatives on one other issue. Or he could keep assuming Liberal vote switches Conservative vote while the evidence supporting that assumption one issue to another. So many options. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Paul Wells, visit his blog at www.macleans.ca/paulwells

Take my power utility, please



ANDREW COYNE

In the wake of Hydro-Quebec's astounding \$4.8 billion deal to take over New Brunswick's electric power utility, there just one question would Hydro-Quebec please take over Ontario's too? As long as elephants are, debt-ridden provincial power utilities are taking over other elephants, debt-ridden provincial power utilities, why should New Brunswick have all the fun? If the two provinces of Quebec are generous enough to undertake another province's expensive energy policy innovation alongside their own, then I say Ontario should be next in line.

NB Power got itself into trouble far more than the same reason Ontario Hydro did, before it was sold a decade ago, as indeed did Hydro-Quebec, is overexpansion, over investment in

capital spending, over investment in over-manned workforce, and financing it all by over-borrowing—and undercharging customers, effectively valuing demand to justify its own expansion. The combination of political ownership and monopoly control of the market proved all too potent to abuse, as it always does, the scale of the folly obscured by the usual overbuy accounting. It is, in short, a costly, politicized mess. \$4.8 billion in debt, and growing under the weight of its very own runaway over budget, behind-schedule, nuclear fiasco, the Point Lepreau plant, beside which the Derlington disaster looks almost quaint.

So you would think the deal would be popular among New Brunswickers. In return for the market risk, the transmission lines, and most (though not all) of its generating capacity, Hydro-Quebec will assume responsibility for all of the utility's debts, and finance residential and commercial electricity rates for five years in the bargain (they had previously been scheduled increases by three per cent annually). Industrial rates would be cut to levels comparable with those in Quebec. And with the utility's liabilities erased from its balance sheet, the province's debt would be reduced at a stroke by 40 per cent.

Yet the deal is proving highly controversial in the province. For one thing, there's the matter of Liberal Premier Shawn Graham's 2006 election promise that the utility would be maintained in public ownership, though that is easily avoided: NB Power will, in fact, remain publicly owned—but by another province's public. Other complaints that the province's sovereignty has been compromised, though it's hard to see how this, the utility will no longer be owned by the province, but it will continue to be regulated by it, the same as any corporation, domestic or foreign, that operates within its borders. If anything, this ought to mean more effective regulation, since the province will no longer be in the conflict of interest of regulating itself.

If the deal is controversial in New Brunswick, it is simply toxic in Newfoundland, where premier, Danny Williams, unveiled a plan to block power exports from the planned Lower Churchill hydroelectric project from reaching their intended markets in the American northeast, with Hydro-Quebec masquerading in its newly acquired New Brunswick lines to deliver its own. With not only NB Power but possibly other provincial utilities in the line, the

war scare, Quebec would have a "struggle" on the regional energy supply.

Again, these deals were sold as a bargain. Williams is disinclined to accept the government of New Brunswick's assurances that it will maintain open access to its transmission lines, as in continuing role as the regulator of the utility. But he doesn't have to believe them. If Hydro-Quebec wants to sell into the U.S. market, it is required to abide by U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rules requiring the owners of power lines to give equal access to competing power suppliers (New Brunswick would have to pay the going rate to sell its power through New Brunswick, but it could not be discriminated against.) One might prefer that the Canadian common market not be impeded from provincial competition in restraint of trade by Canadian provinces, but in the absence of that most expensive of restraint will, the Americans will suffice.

If anyone ought to be leary of the deal, rather it would seem to be Quebecers. Hydro-Quebec has a history of ill-considered megaprojects, and by gradual erosion of its riches, James Bay among them. It's not at all clear that those northeastern states are thinking for themselves of imported hydroelectric power, given declining demand and plummeting natural gas prices. As the energy policy analyst Tom Adams has observed, Newfoundland may come to be thankful that its own provincial power utility is not in the same position, trying to unload great chunks of additional power on an already saturated market.

Indeed, it's still not clear that is a great deal even for New Brunswick. Yes, it has found a buyer for its utility, but power utility that is Hydro-Quebec the right buyer? Could it have finished a higher price for a complete holding price? Rather than accepting payment in the form of the province's debt—there's the province's estimate of the selling to consumers at \$5 billion—why not demand the cash equivalent, and let the province then use that money, that is, according to the lines of economics, rather than politics? And rather than simply transfer control of the province's electricity generation from one monopoly to another, whatever happened to opening the market to competition, promised in 2006 but never delivered? ■

ON THE WEB: For more Andrew Coyne, visit his blog at www.macleans.ca/andrewcoyne



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Olympic gold medallist **Ross Rebagliati** on why he's not competing, Ignatieff, his new book and what his campaign song might be

A CONVERSATION WITH JONATHAN GATEHOUSE

Canadian snowboarder Ross Rebagliati for the first time at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, where he won gold and then had his medal taken away after testing positive for marijuana. By the time the IOC overturned his medal five days later—the technology that put a war on explicitly banned and Olympic competitors—the rest is worldwide celebrity. Now, more than a decade later, the 36-year-old is hoping to put his life back into a seat in Parliament.

Q A couple of years ago, you were talking about making a comeback for the Vancouver 2010 Games. What happened to that idea?

A: Nothing happened to the idea, but the process to get back onto the national team put me right back at the junior level, competing against 21-year-olds. It wasn't the sort of World Cup competition I needed, and the cost of it was more than I was able to come up with at the time. That made a comeback virtually impossible.

Q: Did you actually end up racing against 21-year-olds?

A: Oh yeah. I traveled down to Colorado and did a couple of races at Copper Mountain. And I made them go over to Banff and compete in the Europa Cup, the event below the World Cup. It's like my riding was at a point where I would have quickly been able to get back to the level I needed to be at. But I just wasn't able to enter into those races based on the system we have in Canada. In other countries, if you're an ex-problem

athlete, you automatically have a spot on the national team. But to come back from where we are in Canada isn't as easy.

Q: Link, understanding a such a competitive sport in Canada, you retired in 1998—after such a long layoff you really thought you had a realistic shot of making the Olympics?

A: Absolutely. I've been riding for more than 20 years, and at the time I really hadn't been away from it at all. I was living in Whistler, riding all the time. And I had my career in fish, coaching other racers. But the cost—just to join a team with a coach, a car, meals, hotels, etc., and it quickly adds up.

Q: There wasn't a sponsor who was ready to step up?

A: Nope. Canada's a small country that way. The opportunities are limited. Ever since I came back from Nagano, really, the sponsorships have dried up.

Q: Are you disappointed that you won't be competing at Vancouver?

A: Not at all. The Nagano Olympics were an extension of my career as it was—I had been competing since the late 1980s. But the idea of being there, at home, in 2010, was a great motivator. I just wanted to give it a shot.

Q: Now, the focus has changed. You've just been endorsed as the federal Liberal candidate for the C-6 riding of Okanagan—Coquille—Nelson.

A: Politics is something I've been interested in for some time. I worked for the Liberal party in Whistler when I lived there. And I

worked for the party when I moved to Kelowna a couple of years ago. As I got older and started to get more interested in what is happening in the world, and what is happening in Canada, it has become an interest of mine to see how I could contribute. And when the opportunity came up in Okanagan—Coquille—especially given that there wasn't going to be a Liberal running in the next election—not only did I think it was an opportunity, but a responsibility as well.

Q: So did the Liberals approach you, or did you approach them?

A: They approached me. It came up over lunch and I thought about it for a few minutes, and by the end of the meal, I had decided to do it.

Q: Would you describe yourself as a lifelong Liberal?

A: Yes.

Q: I understand that you once met Pierre Trudeau. How did that happen?

A: It was in Whistler in 1989 or '90. I was working as a bushy at Soda Village, and Mr. Trudeau came for dinner. I had the opportunity, and he came to the table at the end of the night. I told him "how pleased I was, and he asked me a few questions about what I was doing. I mentioned that I was an aspiring professional snowboarder. He asked me all the best and asked a couple. It was a really great experience.

Q: Do you still have the napkins?

A: Don't know. I might pop up somewhere, but I haven't seen it lately.

Q: What do you think of Michael Ignatieff?

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At Will, I think Michael Ignatieff has been a great leader for the Liberal party, and we're looking forward to the next election campaign. I know the issues are important ones, and as far as it can be, he's doing a great job of putting those issues on the table and making sure that a great Canadian tradition is carried on.

Q: There's a new Angus Reid poll that suggests only 51 per cent of Canadian approve of Ignatieff's performance as Liberal leader. Why do you think he's not doing as well as expected?

A: That's a great question that right now, I'm not prepared to talk about. Mr. Ignatieff's popularity, I don't think I have enough information to make a comment on that.

Q: Okay, the party didn't win the election, but it's doing a great job. What is it that he's doing right?



'My message will basically be to keep kids off of alcohol, tobacco and drugs'

At Will's addressing some of the issues that are important to Canadians. For example, calling for equality in the workforce for men and women. I think that's a standard that Canada should take on next to a good example. I think the fact that we're one of the worst performing countries in terms of the environment is unacceptable. Canada is known as green, great outdoors sort of country, and the fact that we are contributing more to greenhouse gases than most advanced nations

is embarrassing, frankly.

Q: What would you like to see Canada do as the government?

A: I'd like to see some more sustainable energy—wind power and solar power. Those are flourishing industries and could create a lot of jobs in areas of Canada where there hasn't been a lot of economic activity. Places that are in the middle of nowhere, where there isn't a large agglomeration of things, we have the issue of getting. At this point in time, we're building up roads, sending them across whole to be cut and processed in foreign mills. That's not good. We've got to protect our jobs here in Canada. Specifically here in the Okanagan. Coalfields riding.

Q: Are there other areas that you feel strongly about?

A: Absolutely. Affordable child care is one of them—helping our young families. The children are the future. And I think the senior's health care situation, home care, the elderly are the ones who reach the youth. If you have a healthy senior population, it just transcends all the way down the line.

Q: What about youth issues? What would you do to bring young people more involved in Canadian politics?

A: What I'm doing right now—stepping up on the plate and taking a stand against the current political way of thinking. And basically informing young people that voting is important, you can make a difference. If we can all get together and vote one way or another, I think democracy in Canada would work a lot better, and represent Canadians in a much broader way. My message to younger Canadians, and I mean all levels, is that the complexity is not insurmountable. We're sending our Canadian children overseas to create a democracy in a foreign land, and a lot of them are paying the ultimate price. And we can't even bring ourselves to vote here, where we have that right and privilege. To me, that's unacceptable.

Q: How big was a regular vote?

A: Not I haven't. The word on a couple of occasions the just, but I've been involved in the same situation as most young people. I've not served about the politicians running for office, and they're basically not reached out to us—democracy. The messages have been geared to an older generation.

Q: You've mentioned Ignatieff. Are there other politicians you admire?

A: Sure, Trudeau. He was a power before I could understand what politics was all about, but he had a real end of the girls liked him. And when you're a teenager, that's kind of what you are looking forward to—the sexy politician and a girlfriend. That's a way

of related to young people at the time. And of course, prime minister. Christ, we saw someone who walked out to me when I was at the Olympics, going through a hard time. He played to let me know that he supported me, and that Canadians supported me, at a time when I was feeling a bit of a letdown about what had happened. For that, he's the top guy in my life. And now, President Obama has set a new standard, also reaching out to the youth and to minority groups who have felt, as I have, been treated as, less than 100 per cent American.

Q: You've got a tough life as a clerk in Okanagan. Can you tell me the story of 2006-07?

A: I'm going to take him on the way. I've taken on all the things in my life. I'll need ahead, push to the limit. I wouldn't expect something like that. I wouldn't expect something like that. I wouldn't expect something like that. I wouldn't expect something like that.

Q: Any other thing you're going to see you in a winter as a job?

A: Not unless I'm getting towed into a 100-foot wave surfing off the coast of California.

Q: You've made reference to what you are best known for—winning gold in Nagano. How do you see your Olympic experience transfer into politics?

A: Well, it was a very political situation. I was on the international stage dealing with a border-line criminal happening. I was just in a Japanese city for several hours and interrupted there were potential changes that could have been imposed on me if I had been unsuccessful in my fight to get my medal back again. When I did get my medal back, that forces me to see the holding of it up to actually take on the stage of the Japanese police system—I don't think people realize that. For me, the Olympics was a very political event. I felt like I went from being a 26-year-old snowboarder back to a politician in a matter of hours, having to hold my own ground without any media backing at all. It wasn't exactly a confidence building experience in the time, but looking back at it now, I did gain a lot of insight.

Q: Do you think your fame will help or hinder you in your campaign?

A: Absolutely. Think that I'm going to help one—name recognition is something that money can't buy. The youth have been following me ever since Nagano, and not only the youth. I do have quite a following with all age groups—from the kids who are 10 today, not even conceived when I was at the Olympics, to seniors of 100 years. I've been recognized by women when I'm walking my dog in the park and stopped to talk to me, being completely dumbfounded by the fact

that people not only know my name but can visually recognize me after having not really been in the media over a period of time. So, absolutely it's going to help me.

Q: There have been demands that resignation as well. You ended up in a legal battle with CTV over what you felt was a misrepresentation of your role for the TV drama Whistle. Do you think Canadians have an accurate idea of who you are?

A: I think they're beginning to. If they didn't already have an accurate idea from my performance after winning the medal—how I showed my integrity in my fight to regain the gold. And since I've stepped up to the plate here for the Liberal nomination, that will speak volumes about who I am as a person, and my character as well. There's a lot

of new people that will be launched now. I'd like to say that, when I can, however I can. We're one of these struggling families, just like all of the people in this riding. I know what they're feeling. I understand how a lack of money affects a family and young kids. That's been a major motivation for me to step up and try to make life a little bit better.

Q: What are you looking forward to after the Olympics this February?

A: I'll be in both Whistler and Vancouver, not only supporting the Canadian athletes, but promoting my book, doing some signs. I'm going to try to get into as many events as I can, but I don't have a single idea but as far as I'm concerned I'm just going to flash my gold medal.

Q: Did you try to get rich?

A: No, I didn't try. My relationship with the Olympics has always been a positive one

people have heard him more. But there is a lot of positive energy from Whistler and its residents.

Q: Let's go back to the time that you put on the television show Nagano—what was it like?

A: I'm not really going to go there right now. I think the incident obviously has a big opportunity to correct one side of the issue, but I don't want to be that guy. What I want myself doing standing in the middle of the room, and having a clear view of all the issues, including the legalization of marijuana. But that's not going to be the platform that I launch my campaign from whatsoever. It's an important issue, and I look forward to grappling with it in the future.

Q: There's another incredible question—do you still see your parents?

A: I don't really think supporting it one

"I was amazed at how much my classmates knew and had to contribute."

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of work to do, but I will do my best to prove to my constituents that I am their best bet.

Q: In our interview, you described your job as the Olympics as basically "being there." What does that entail?

A: As a competitor, everybody has roles who they are as a person. And I've always maintained that one of the biggest lessons I learned during my hard time in Nagano was to try and stay true to my character. The last thing you want to do is put yourself out as something you're not. With me, what you see is what you get.

Q: How are you making your living these days?

A: [Laughs] Good question? This summer I spent time farming horses. This afternoon, I'm going to be driving a pilot tractor for a friend who delivers houseboats. I spent time over the winter writing a book on the history

I grew up watching them and looked up to Olympic athletes, and I still hold that same respect for them as I did back then. But having gone through the Olympic machine, and come out the other end, it's like a beacon there, doing that sort of thing. I will definitely be in Vancouver enjoying the festivities and the Olympic spirit, it will be an amazing time.

Q: But FINCOC or the Canadian Olympic Committee's having you lower gold medal award up with medals?

A: I have no idea.

Q: After twelve years as Canadian figure skater coach, you're now a big shot in the world of the Ivey Executive MBA. How do you feel about that?

A: I think the negative energy is easier to put out than the positive one, especially in the media. The voices of the and Olympic

was on the other, at this point, is something I'm interested in doing. Quite frankly, the members suggest that one way or the other I'll be letting down half of my constituents.

Q: But that question is going to keep coming up.

A: When the time comes, I'll address it. I just don't think now is the right time. My message will basically be to keep kids off of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Q: That's what you hope to teach your new learners.

A: Absolutely.

Q: Last question: What's your campaign slogan going to be?

A: Cliché the Bob Marley song Get Up, Stand Up. There's a lot of positive messages in Bob Marley's music, about getting young people involved in the political process. It's that sort of thing in particular will resonate. M

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IN-CELL SHOOT: Prisoners with tattooed identifying information play on the public fear that criminals will return to crime once they get out.

ARE WE REALLY SOFT ON CRIME?

**The Tories prefer
tough talk to hard
proof on punishment**

BY JOHN CEDDES • The federal Department of Justice boasts Canada's biggest concentration of legal brainpower. Of its roughly 4,500 employees, about half are lawyers, and its policy branch alone employs about 200 barristers. Not surprisingly, the department has a long history of producing sophisticated policy papers and commissioning probing research on crime and punishment. So as the Conservative government continues its dalliance to roll out its long series of tough-on-crime initiatives built around mandatory minimum penalties for a raft of offences—from gun crime to big-time fraud—it would

be reasonable to expect a thick stack of Justice studies explaining why deterring longer prison terms is the way to go.

But Justice Minister Rob Nicholson doesn't offer up any departmental research at all to support the Tories' major law-and-order thrust. Nor does Nicholson rely on reports by independent experts to buttress his case for telling judges how long they must lock up criminals for a slew of offences. Instead, in response to requests from Maclean's for any analysis or data justifying the new minimum sentences, his office produced a 1,000-word memo explaining the policy. It candidly admits that research doesn't offer persuasive evidence that mandatory minimums can, period, called MMPs for short, reduce crime. "In our opinion," it says, "the studies are inconclusive particularly with respect to the

main debate: do MMPs deter crime?"

If they can't be shown to exert a deterrent, why put MMPs at the core of the government's high-profile anti-crime push? Nicholson offers a list of reasons that remain. Some are mostly, if ever, mentioned in the government's rhetoric about its crime messaging, like the goal of ensuring that criminals "spend a minimum amount of time in custody to receive the message and to habituate to the life they need." The memo dismisses the need of keeping criminals behind bars long enough to "discuss their gangs, like the supporters on Nicholson's list have to do, not with security lights on guard, but with assuming the anger of law-abiding citizens who believe the system coddles the bad guys."

The opinion on Nicholson's screen-print list "measures more for this justice has been rendered." And the second, "ensure that the amount of time served is proportional to the gravity of the offence," it's the link to the government's MMP policy. They connect into an undeniably powerful argument: if judges refuse to hand down sentences that fit the crime, then victims will feel doubly victimized and society understandably outraged, leaving the government little choice but to legislate longer prison terms.

This seemingly irrefutable line of reasoning, however, rests on the premise that the government's known sentences now being handed down by the courts are too light. Is

they, often haven't bothered to collect that information. Not only's office and his departmental officials admit they have no compiled statistics on typical sentences in convictions for most of the crimes they're targeted for MMPs. And it's not always clear the new maximum terms will be any tougher than the sentences often imposed up to now. For instance, the government announced last month, with much fanfare, that fraudsters who net more than \$1 million will face at least two years in prison under a new MMP. According to some experts, that's low. "You would lawyer Eric Gottardi, who chairs the Canadian Bar Association's criminal law subsection in his city, says that when a white collar criminal is an authority person or convicted of major fraud, the 'quoted pattern' for the judge to hand down is 'a sentence in the range of three to five years in prison.' And the penalties can be much tougher in extreme cases, like the convicted financial adviser convicted in a recent high-profile Montreal case, Vincent Lussier, who was sentenced to 13 years.

Sentences on gun crime are particularly harsh, since firearms offences often occur in combination with other crimes, like drug dealing or robbery. The government's Tackling Violent Crime Act dictates at least a five-year sentence on the first offence and seven years on subsequent convictions for using a gun in the most serious crimes, like attempted murder or hostage taking. But still that really translates into significantly stiffer penalties? For 2009 '06, the latest Statistics Canada figures available, the average prison term for all offences related to violent crimes—including many offences less serious than the ones targeted by the new mandatory minimums—was just over four years, about double the typical sentence for the same crimes committed without a gun.

The government's refusal to present detailed evidence of soft sentences to justify imposing maximums makes this a debate more about impressions than facts. The loudest critics—conservatives who argue that the research, by and large, doesn't show much measurable benefit from MMPs. Seneca Institute University criminologist Ned Beigel says mandatory minimums might be justified, but only if they were more narrowly targeted. Rather than the government's proposed two-year minimums for anyone convicted of growing 500 or more marijuana plants, he suggests "senes and fines" tougher sentencing only for those who use guns, set up traps or endanger children in running a grow op. Beigel shares the broad application of MMPs by the Tories as "not tough on crime, but stupid on crime."

That's exactly the sort of disappointed expert

reaction Conservative strategists welcome last month, the leading university political science professor who served as Prime Minister Stephen Harper's chief of staff from 2006 to 2008, explained why an unusually candid talk on Conservative strategy last spring at McGill University in Montreal.

ONE EXPERT DESCRIBED THE TORIES' APPROACH AS 'NOT TOUGH ON CRIME, BUT STUPID ON CRIME'



IN RESPONSE to a request for data, Health's own office provided a 1,000-word memo.

"Every time we proposed amendments to the Criminal Code, socialists, criminals go, 'defence lawyers and Liberals scratch us for proposing measures that the evidence apparently showed did not work,' Brodie said. "That was a good thing for us politically, as that sends out, criminals and defence lawyers were and are all held in lower esteem than Conservative politicians by the voting public. Politically it helped us tremendously to be attacked by this coalition of unsavory types."

The popularity of any policy sold as a crackdown on crime is a given around Parliament Hill. As a result, Liberals show little interest in pushing back against the Conservatives' law and order agenda. Some NDP MPs, such

as Libby Davies and Miguel Lozano, have been more willing to challenge the Tories. When he appeared before the House justice committee last spring, Davies repeatedly pressed harder evidence that MMPs work. Brodie's offer was "We have the mandate of the Canadian people," Nicholson answered, "and they have told us that this is what they want to see us move on."

The policy extends beyond mandatory minimums to other measures aimed at locking up criminals for longer. Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan, Nicholson's partner in combatting crime, recently announced a range of measures to make it harder for prisoners to get parole. Under a program introduced in 1993, non-violent, first-time offenders often qualified for parole after serving only one-third of their sentence. Van Loan is ending that practice, along with the routine granting of full parole when prisoners have served one-third of their term. He estimates the move to make it harder to qualify for parole will cost \$60 million a year to pay for keeping non-violent criminals behind bars longer.

Like mandatory minimums, the tougher parole rules play on the public fear that criminals will return to crime soon after they're let out. Whichever, of course, and sometimes with tragic and highly publicized results. But statistics suggest only a tiny minority of offenders commit new crimes while on parole. Correctional Services Canada, part of Van Loan's department, says 1.1 per cent of federal offenders were charged with another violent offence while they were out in the community under some form of supervision in 2006 '07. After serving their entire sentence, about 10 per cent of violent offenders are convicted of another violent crime within two years, just under 10 per cent within five years. About the same percentage of non-violent offenders—one released prisoner in 10—are convicted for another non-violent crime within five years.

Dry data of this sort doesn't make it into speeches by Nicholson and Van Loan. It rarely fuels fiercer for discussion among these "inner-city types" dominated by a government that seems, when it comes to crime, a higher "mandate of the Canadian people." A more thoughtful debate might include discussion about how to identify that minority of convicted criminals most likely to reoffend, rather than lumping every one behind bars for broad categories of prisoners. It might seek to first establish a clear understanding of what sorts of sentences judges successfully handing down, before prescribing mandatory minimums as an all-purpose solution. As it stands, Canadians are hearing plenty of the tough on crime rhetoric they already crave, but not much about evidence-based policy thinking to back it up. ■

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Stealing talent from Uncle Sam

Canada takes aim at skilled immigrants squeezed out by the U.S.

BY CHARLIE GELGIE AND COLIN CAMPBELL

America's best brain and talent trading partner—that's Canada. Happy member of the world's largest free trading zone? Sure. But when it comes to the global competition for talent, well, friendship only goes so far. When immigration managers at Canada's consulate in Los Angeles were asked last year to provide statistics of the immigration situation in their region, they were rounded down rights predatory. "Significant numbers of highly skilled economic class immigrants are being rejected from this territory," they wrote in a report obtained by *Maclean's*. Most of the workers have been educated in U.S. university systems. The documents went on, obtaining degrees in related fields like biomedical research or software engineering. With such talent in short supply in Canada, the panel pithed it in, A. bashed, "his office regularly engages in promotional and recruitment efforts to exploit this talent."

Exploiting? Canada? It would seem so, at Uncle Sam's expense. As a political war over immigrant workers rages south of the border, Canada has left a key under the tent for those who have been squeezed out and accused in some quarters of stealing high paid work from native-born Americans. Each year, a wave of foreign-born employees in the U.S. celebrates the sixth and final year of

work visas known as H-1B—documents are used for companies who can't find home grown talent to fill certain jobs. But politicians in Congress have for years fought for a cap on the number of new H-1Bs (1 now stands at 8,500), which has left thousands of educated, skilled workers out in the cold.

It is these workers *Quevas* has been targeting, and its efforts appear to be paying off. During the period from 1998 to 2008, the number of skilled workers coming into the country from the United States more than doubled, from 2,969 to 4,781.

The trend has moved from among business and political leaders south of the border, who see skilled immigrants as key drivers of economic growth. "The unwanted people want to come here and that's a huge advantage to us," Microsoft founder Bill Gates told a case group of immigrant business leaders. "In a sense, we're turning them away." New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has been calling for an increase in the number of visas, citing Canada, among other countries, as a destination for talent. Hegemon is a study by the National Foundation for American Policy, which found that every year an American technology company rejected an H-1B visa position, it added five additional jobs.

In some cases the companies have prompted companies to voice with their feet. Microsoft last year opened a 700,000-sq-ft "development centre" in the Vancouver suburb of Richmond to house 300 workers (telling them more than 200 different names. Many have "immigration challenges" preventing them

LAST YEAR, Microsoft opened a "development centre" in Richmond, B.C.

from working in the U.S., explains Dennis Plante, a former H-1B visa holder who returned to his native Vancouver to manage the facility. Now, at the sprawling complex, they work on everything from the Xbox to Microsoft Office software. The rules have also been a boon for Canadian firms, says Tom Jenkins, executive chairman of Waterloo, Ont.-based Open Text. "It's left Canada at a competitive advantage for attracting talent."

Critics wonder whether offices like Microsoft's represent a long-term gain for Canada. For some U.S. companies, the goal is to create a temporary home for employees before shifting them stateside as soon as possible, others are taking advantage of NAFTA provisions allowing people holding Canadian work permits to do business in both countries. In a practice known as "parking," employers will place workers in Canadian branch offices, just have them spend most of their time doing business south of the border.

But Canada's surprise appeal to immigrants often wins out in the end, says Peter Kulak, a Toronto immigration lawyer who has counseled former H-1B holders. "A lot of these workers end up liking things better here, and stay," he says. "They find that it's a better environment than in Vancouver or Toronto—there are bigger [ethnic] communities, it's more multicultural than where they were in the States." Nor should Canadian employers underestimate the sheer demand for skills in certain parts of the country. Alberta, working in conjunction with Immigration Canada, has been running a special program targeting H-1B holders, offering permanent residency to workers with as little as one year's experience in the U.S. In the past 18 months, it has received thousands of applications and accepted 991 workers—like Geoff Barnes, a civil engineer who jumped at the chance to move his family to Calgary from Houston, Texas, who is originally from Wisconsin, had spent seven years trying to get a green card in the U.S. before. "Canada came in and offered me a divorce to be a permanent resident in less than six months. We love it here."

That demand could work even more heavily in Canada's favour as the U.S. economy languishes. This year was the first in several in which all of the H-1B spots made available under U.S. law's fixed cap on the first day after six months, about 18,000 remain available. In other words, a shortage of workers in the U.S., not a shortage of visas, may be driving these U.S. citizens north. Either way, Canada increasingly looks like a net beneficiary after years of watching its best talent disappear south. The longer Uncle Sam takes to get his house in order, the better it is for us. ■



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THE REBELS GATHER

This Tory AGM will determine Stelmach's future—and Alberta's

BY NICHOLAS KOHLER • Not long ago, after a Fraser Institute dinner at a Calgary hotel, Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach invited another bar to find Rod Love, Ralph Klein's one-time chief of staff, laddled with some friends drinking "Is this the conspiracy table?" Stelmach, grinning broadly, mixed the group. The galloping banner for a laugh. Still, the men's trust in each other. Love and one of his drinking buddies that night, Alan Halliwell, a one-time campaign manager for Klein, had been rumored to back a political challenger who could soon swing Stelmach aside.

For weeks, the Tories' annual general meeting in Red Deer, with its mandatory Nov. 7 leadership review, has promised to be good theatre, equal parts fun and suspense (look for more CPAC). Ordinarily a routine list vote of party governance, this vote, wherein 1,000 delegates cast their ballots for or against a leadership race, is now important: because Stelmach could go, and everyone else's eyes are on the shadow—former leadership hopefuls Jim Denning and Todd Morrison, Calgary entrepreneur and Dougman Dave panelist Brett Wilson, even federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice.

None of it is really credible. Still, the focus strayed against Stelmach last night. One poll last month found PC support had collapsed to 34 per cent of decided voters from 64 per cent in early 2007. More than an out of the wrong Stelmach has moved the province in the wrong direction. Also controversial have been his adjustments to oil and gas royalties, his handling of health care and a \$1.9-billion deficit. At bottom, though, Stelmach is unpopular among Canadians—to have presided over the loss of the Alberta Advantage, this crisis of low taxes and abundant opportunity that marked Klein's reign.

There was a poll, meanwhile, put over a year for the Wildrose Alliance, a new right-of-course party, at 22 per cent, surpassing the Alberta Liberals. The party made a Calgary by-election from the Tories in September and has since elected the talented Dan Smith as leader. Stelmach has now grown so weak that open dissent within his party is no longer rare. Klein has said he must get at least 70 per cent of the vote to stay on. "I want enough Tories to vote against his leadership to force a leadership conven-

tion," Halliwell, an influential Tory activist and lobbyist, told a columnist last month.

He could get his wish. Love is expected as a delegate on Nov. 7, despite an old personal conversation by Stelmach, who ignored rumors of his backroom meddling and named him a delegate after that night at the Hyatt. Stelmach has no way of knowing how he'll vote. "I wouldn't talking with," says Love, though he dismisses the notion he is at the centre of a conspiracy. Also voting is MLA Gray Boucher, made a delegate by the Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo riding association.

would be the perfect opponent for Stelmach—but he adds that a new leader would be good for Alberta. Such shuffles, for some, call the solidarity of the leadership vote as a whole into question. "How many Wildrose guys are going to go and prop Stelmach up?" asks one Tory.

Whatever its outcome, the review likely won't change Stelmach's immediate future, recent declarations by prominent Tories like Peter Lougheed, Dinanag and Merron suggest he'll do fine. But the vote will decide along which of its back lines the party will split. Stelmach's ascendancy has always been



NOTRE THAN he is out of to believe that Stelmach has moved Alberta in the wrong direction

even though Stelmach rejected him financially when he promised to acquire for a new Fort McMurray long-term care facility. But that has now become a martyr to the cause of deposing Stelmach and his supposed head-lins. "If you represent your constituents, you'll just be booted," he says. "It's not when one gets to go from a man to a verb."

Borowick Mayor Emma Biles, a former cabinet minister, also won't say how he'll vote. Though he was one of several prominent Tories, both provincial and federal, to show up at the Wildrose's leadership convention as a member. Biles was a delegate across as a one-time MLA. A ballot for Stelmach would be good for the Wildrose, he says—Stelmach

less about ideas—a vision for the province—than the desire of a certain corner of rural northern Alberta to run things while. A strong Stelmach vote will petrify Calgary's domain of the Tories, a weak showing will trigger more realignment, particularly if Stelmach defies the numbers to stay on.

In all this, some discern a winning slogan: Who will save Alberta? "What's disappointing to me is to see in pre-Calgary against Edmonton, rural against urban," says Wilson, one of those authors long rumored to have been leading agitators. Is that back? "I won't talk about it until there's a decision made by the party," says Wilson. And so Alberta waits. ■



CANADIAN SENTENCING FOR 'GREATEST CRIME'

"We know that denying a genocide is to kill the victims a second time. There is no greater crime than genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes." —Justice Andie Dene of Quebec Superior Court, commenting on his sentencing last week of Denise Hatzigeorgis, a Hindu involved in the 1984 Indian genocide of Turin. Hatzigeorgis is the first person prosecuted under Canada's Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act.

Teaching the Vancouver Olympics

BY TOM KENNEDY • Should B.C. kids be learning about the Winter Olympics in school? The provincial government says yes, but teachers are fuming.



B.C. has spent \$500,000 to create an Olympics education program

The government has spent more than \$500,000 over the past three years to create an Olympics education program, which includes a website and DVD with curriculum recommendations for teachers, materials for schools to create children's story books, and websites about student issues such as diversity, disability, and inclusion.

But teachers are wondering where that money came from—the effort was launched just after the government cut \$150,000 from sports programs and \$100 million in facility grants, which are used for the physical upkeep of schools. “We should be channeling money into school classrooms,” says Susan Lambert, vice president of the B.C. Teachers Federation, “not wasting it on useless public relations exercises.” And besides, she claims, a free Olympics education program already exists. “Teachers will naturally use the opportunity of the Olympics to design lessons.”

B.C. Education Minister Margaret MacDonnell says the program is worth it in case for the resources it provides to teachers. Further more, she claims that costs had to be made regardless. “This year we were really under very serious budgetary challenges and we thought that this was the most sensible choice to make.” MacDonnell adds a point on this government spending on schools is at its highest level ever.

But Lambert raises issue with that line in itself. “The new budget has frozen operating budgets at the same time as increased costs have been downloaded onto school boards.” The Olympics education program, she says, is just “rubbing salt in the wounds.” ■

Where will P.E.I. Muslims go to pray?

BY KATIE ENGELHART • Call it Lolo Mosque on the Island. Last week, the CBC ran a news story about a Muslim doctor whose efforts to build the first mosque in P.E.I. have thus far come to naught. The “disappointed” doctor asked the province for financial assistance, only to be “turned down.”

The CBC story also suggested that there was reason to believe the city might say no. It quoted Charlottetown Councillor David MacDonald as saying he would be willing to meet with Muslims and “see if the city can assist in building a mosque.” But when MacDonald spoke to MacDonald, he said, “We wouldn’t give any assistance to a religious group any more than we would to anybody else. We don’t provide financial assistance to any kind of developer.” The meeting, MacDonald says, will be little more than an “information session.”

When interviewed by MacDonald, the doctor, who asked to remain anonymous, citing “openness,” orders responses only (CBC story) was still adamant that the province should step in to help the Island’s 250-300 Muslims, but stressed that he is not looking for a government handout. “We’re not looking for something for free,” he says. “Our main goal was to get a loan without interest, or cheap land, or a cheap building.”

The doctor worries that the province will give a discount if it doesn’t lend a hand. By his estimate, “two or three” Muslims, two



Muslims want the government to help fund a mosque for the Island

of whom are doctors, have already left the Island because it lacks a place of worship—a big loss for a province struggling with an acute doctor shortage. “If the government starts building a mosque, it is going to make professionals stop, they’ll leave for it.”

Ultimately, he doesn’t know whether he’ll be able to stay in P.E.I. “Yes a certain point, when my kids grow up, I may have to leave. And I’ll feel really bad—why is going to take care of these patients?” ■

Latin lovers abound in university

BY KATIE LEUNG • Who said Latin was a dead language? Like the Roman army spreading Roman, hordes of university students are flooding classics departments, intent on learning Caesar’s tongue. At York, enrollment in beginners’ Latin has doubled over the past few years, while the University of Ottawa has opened more spaces due to demand.



In Harry Potter influencing students to study Latin?

At least Kesh, chair of classics at the University of Toronto, thinks Latin’s popularity has to do with “media interest in the ancients,” as typified in movies like *Gladiator*. “I’ve spent time looking at the ruins, but they’re down around my feet,” she says, which makes seeing ancient Rome onscreen all the more exciting. The Harry

Potter books, too, have made an impression. “Latin’s the code word here in Latinitas,” she says. (Take the house spell, down to Latin, Latin for “light.”) But a love for period dramas is a “pretty frivolous reason” to study Latin, says Peter O’Brien of Dalhousie University, especially considering “all the drudgery it requires.” Students are drawn to it because they want to read Virgil or Caesars without the filter of translation, he believes, and future doctors or lawyers might think Latin will come in handy. (The legal term “in camera,” for one, is Latin for “in chambers.”) Others, such as John Gwynne of the University of New Brunswick, simply like the “aesthetic wisdom” of it.

Senad Alenkov, president of the U.S. society of Toronto’s Association of Classics Students, is skeptical that his peers are flocking to the discipline based purely on the merits of Russell Crowe or J.K. Rowling. “I haven’t heard people saying they’ve entered the program because of Harry Potter,” he says. “No one has made life decisions based on the movie 10,000, or as far as I can tell.” The association has, however, hosted screenings of the HBO series *Rome*, which is popular with students and professors alike.

Whatever the reason, about 2,500 Canadian university students are now taking Latin. Far from being a dead language, one might say, *longue Latine vive*. ■

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'THE LAST GREAT NAZI TRIAL'

John Demjanjuk's trial in Munich may mark the end of an era
BY KATIE ENGELHART

It has been greeted as the last great Nazi trial. In November, John Demjanjuk—now first on the Kaiser Wilhelm Center's list of most-wanted war criminals—will appear before a Munich court. He is charged with 27,000 counts of accessory to murder for his role as a guard at the Sobibor death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland. Demjanjuk is 86, and those in favor of prosecuting him find a sense of urgency. "It's a race against time," says Michael Schatt, a law professor at Case Western Reserve University who has worked on the trials of Salim Hamdan and Khedoua Malsene. "They're trying to close the book on justice before [his] life ends naturally."

For the most vehement advocates of prosecution, it has been an agonizing wait. Demjanjuk moved to the United States soon after the war, and was able to live quietly for 25 years before evidence of a darker past was unearthed. In the 1980s, he was brought to trial, but his conviction was later overturned on grounds that he had been mistakenly identified as "Ivan the Terrible," a notorious



DEMIANJUK faces 27,000 counts of accessory to murder for his alleged role at a death camp

sides in Poland's Treblinka death camp. Only in 2000 was another investigation initiated; even then, nine more years passed until German officials issued a warrant for his arrest. In May of this year—some 16 years after the prosecution—he was deported to Germany, where his trial will begin on Nov. 16.

Given the passage of time, it may well prove to be the final major war trial in the tens of six decades-long process of bringing former Nazis to trial. As such, Demjanjuk's pending appearance in court, after so many hurdles, is being applauded by some. "To have the last big Nazi trial in Germany," points Christoph Buchardt, law professor at the University of Tübingen, will "show to the world that Germany can do it." Still, as the opening day looms, others are uneasy. The commissioning of Demjanjuk—aged, wheelchair-bound, and cancer-ridden—is far removed from that of the archetypal Nazi demon of popular culture. This gap was clear in May when reporters gathered at the Munich airport as Demjanjuk's plane flew in, only to snap photos of

a frail man being carried onto German territory on a stretcher. It was clear again when Demjanjuk was first brought to Munich's Landsberg prison, and transferred not to a cell but to a medical unit.

His family, fighting to have charges against him dropped, released footage that showed Demjanjuk moving through a medical examination—clearly in a great deal of pain. The U.S. Justice Department had linked such secret footage of Demjanjuk's suffering publicly and getting years of attention. Then again, everything about this case, and not just the extent of the witness's increasingly faulty, is contested. Demjanjuk, a former Red Army soldier who was captured by the Germans, says he was nothing more than a prisoner of war. The authorities claim he volunteered to serve in a Nazi concentration camp guard—and that justice should be served no matter how much time has passed.

But for others, the gravity of the charges is not enough to justify the legal process. To these critics, the trial of the war's deepest

Joan Demjanjuk—who slumped down in his wheelchair and hoisted his hands through a metal grate as the charges against him were read out in court—in bringing a once-purposful legal journey to a public end.

Just as an era is drawing to a close is now in doubt, the passage of 65 years has made sure of that. There will be other trials, these disparate Nazis, for instance, were recently indicted by Spain for their role as concentration camp guards. But time is running out. "Back then—an unexpectedly long time ago—these men who are now passing 80 were in the good of keeping 'peace and quiet'

regime and what followed. Based on Golden, for instance, rose to fame during the Second World War as chief of censors from midlife grace for the Third Reich. But after the war he was put in charge of the West German Federal Truth and Justice Service (BND), which he staffed with ex-Nazis.

In the '60s, though, largely because of Israeli efforts, the process picked up steam. "Many victims," says Forstner, "have identified the Eichmann trial as the turning point." Adolf Eichmann, known as "the architect of the Holocaust," managed the logistics of the Final Solution: namely, he scheduled the trains carrying Jews to extermination camps.

But the Israeli court ruled that Nazi crimes were violations not only of state, but of international law, thus, Israeli deemed itself competent to try him—a precedent that held.

Germany soon started reexamine former Nazis as well, beginning with the Auschwitz trials of 1963. Yet there were 21 ex-guards and officials from the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp complex brought to justice. As the wings and of this horrendous crusade was Germany's Central Office for the Investigation of Nationalist Socialist War Crimes, set up in 1978 (it would later build the world's first court against Demjanjuk).

Still, none of the groundbreaking Nazi



DEM JANKUK LIVED QUIETLY FOR 25 YEARS BEFORE EVIDENCE OF A DARKER PAST SURFACED



in the slaughterhouse of world history," wrote the German newspaper, Bild-Zeitung Zeitung. "Today they're fragile, doddering and deaf."

The stage was set in 1945-'46, when the first Nazi trials opened in Nuremberg, Germany. The first of the series of tribunals, orchestrated by the Allies, brought charges against 24 of the most important surviving Nazis—like Albert Speer, minister of armaments and one of Hitler's closest friends. It also marked the first time that war criminals were tried before an international tribunal. For that reason, Nuremberg is often seen as the birthplace of modern international law. Only through those trials did the world "crimes against humanity" and "genocide" become legally significant.

But after the highest-ranking Nazis were dealt with, says Caroline Fierstein, law lecturer at the University of Essex, there was a kind of "peace." Across Europe, the myth of the Resistance diminished, with many offering to come up to him at least two collaborators with German troops. And within Germany, there wasn't the enthusiasm among the public, fortifying friends and family over another trial, not to mention the problem of the thorny political overlap between the Nazis



DEM JANKUK, 23 years in Jerusalem in 1961, with his hands up in August 1945.

In 1960, Israeli Nazi-hunters found him in Argentina and brought him to Israel, where he was convicted of crimes against humanity and war crimes—and hung in 1962.

The Eichmann trial, Forstner says, set the bar for what would not be accepted as a valid courtroom defense. The crux of Eichmann's argument was that he had issued criminal orders—but only because he was following orders. Since that defense was rejected in the Eichmann trial, says Forstner, it has rarely been accepted. The trial was also a landmark in the establishment of "universal jurisdiction" over genocide. Eichmann was a German whose crimes were committed before the state of Israel even came into existence.

prosecutions—of Eichmann, Klaus Barbie, Maurice Papon—were conducted by foreign courts. This is why, for some, Demjanjuk's November trial is a token of a broader shift. "Germany has really changed," says Michael Schief. "It has a new way of prosecuting war criminals—not just from the Nazis but also Rwandans and Cambodians and Sierra Leoneans and Bosnians." Adds David Cowie, professor of history at Elon University in North Carolina and president emeritus of the Association for the Study of Nazism at Columbia University: "A lot of it is generational. Older Germans wanted to dismiss their wartime legacy. The younger generation of Germans want not to forget."

But after more than 60 years of prosecutions, what remains? In a strictly legalistic sense, the relevance of further trials is waning, with so many having taken place, they are unlikely to set new legal precedents. The trials have also lost much of their symbolic force, and many have come and gone quickly—such as that of Josef Schönböck, found guilty in August for the murder of 100 prisoners in June 1944. Much of the hype around Demjanjuk centers on his much-used new title, No. 1 in the town of Włodzisław Górski's list of most wanted Nazi criminals.

"That's me—I said that," laughs Elinor Baroff in Jerusalem, the SPI's chief Nazi hunter. "I'm the Slovak Włodzisław Górski." He speaks playfully of his title, but Baroff is

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indeed charged with the weighty task of making targets for the Jewish human rights organization. But Nazi hunter Zurell "dropped out on the potency" of the PRS, says Zurell. His annual budget, he estimates, including "the office, meals, everything," is \$200,000. "Believe me, it's a very modest sum," Zurell describes his trial as a trial, in "one third detective, one third historian, one third political lobby." "How? He spends far less time searching for Nazis, and more time urging reluctant governments to prosecute Nazis who have already been located." There are some cases where 700,000 per cent political lobby on. Because that's all I can do."

The 81-year-old Zurell's work is, "The passage of time in no way diminishes

Yugoslavia. "What good did it do to express one's belief in our Vichy," wrote philosopher Alain Finkielkraut, when the French are "Victims in our dealings with the victims in Yugoslavia?"

And, clearly, the process no longer driven by any popular passion. "I don't think the people are asking for it," Finkielkraut considers of the Denzmark trial. "I think people in Germany recognize the importance and they're in favor of it, but it's not as if there's a groundswell of popular opinion." So why now—especially given that, according to Zurell, Germany could have taken charge of the Denzmark file years ago? "I presume it was a political decision," says Christopher Browning. "I have the last big Nazi trial in Germany."

to prosecutors, Denzmark was sent to an SS training camp in Theresienstadt, Poland, after not wanting to work as a guard for the Nazis, who were then set on their way to killing most of Poland's three million Jews. Later, he served as a third Polish camp. One of them was the Sobibor death camp, described by the U.S. Office for Special Investigations as "a place on a peninsula of Poland that has been been crossed on the planet."

Did he have a choice? "I can't say, for one, questions those who defend Denzmark's alleged defense: could he have been on the beachhead they have been ordered POWs suffered extreme brutality in German hands, Crowe concludes, but Denzmark "had his choice. There were an awful lot of Russian and Ukrainian POWs who did not volunteer. You had to make a sub-

stantial decision to be a

German agent or a civilian."

Crowe says that Denzmark will only undergo aggressive Nazi training, and continued working as a soldier—rather than escaping, as others did. "He was both victim and participant in German war crimes," the *Washington Post* writes. "But that doesn't excuse him."

After the war, Denzmark registered as a "displaced person" in Germany. In 1952, he immigrated with his wife and young daughter to the U.S. Soon, the new Americans settled into a quiet suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, and Denzmark found work as a mechanic at a Ford auto plant. He had another daughter and a son. Twenty-five years passed before the tide turned—and what followed was messy. "This is one of the most heinous cases in legal history," wrote Schindler. "It's a textbook case that I teach every criminal law class of every thing that can possibly go wrong as a trial."

In 1975, Michael Hanemann, editor of the *New York-based University Daily News*, compiled a list of Ukrainian suspected of collaboration with the Germans and presented it to what was then the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Denzmark was on that list. According to Crowe, the INS then turned it over to Israel's intelligence, in return, made contact with Sobibor survivors, a number of whom identified Denzmark from an old photograph in Iran from the 1940s, a guess he got from a Polish intelligence source. Two years later, the INS filed the first charges against Denzmark, stripping him of his citizenship in 1981 and ordering him deported. In 1984, his last appeal was rejected and he was extradited to Israel to stand trial. In 1988, "Irony of the Terrible" was sentenced to death.

As it turned out, Ironi Denzmark was not from the Terrible. And it was a chilling Cold

War that gave him a second lease on life. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, he was released on parole after 10 years in prison. In 1992, Denzmark's death sentence was lifted and he returned to the U.S. But only one year later, the Justice Department filed a new complaint. In 1992, Denzmark was extradited again, after a U.S. court accepted evidence he had served as a concentration camp guard. In 2005, his final appeal was rejected. And after German prosecutors decided they had enough evidence, including an SS identity card with a photo of a young, round-faced John Denzmark establishing him to a Sobibor guard—it was Germany who filed formal charges, making an arrest warrant in March 2009.

As well as bringing an alleged war criminal to justice, supporters of the trial also hope that it will "throw a spotlight on Hitler's foreign helpers," as the news magazine *Der Spiegel* has said. "While the Germans, says David Crowe, were the principal victims of the final solution, they were not as exclusive agents." There's no way the Nazis could have done it [the] mass killings] without the help of [foreigners] who were not as exclusive agents." The subject of *Ironi Denzmark* becoming Nazi guards, he says, is "one of the new topics in Holocaust studies that has not been dealt with adequately."

Others hope the trial will bring attention to the Operation Reinhard concentration camps—Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka—where Denzmark served and of which no physical remains remain. These were set up in Poland by SS Brigadier General Odilo Globocnik, who he was "found with his hand in the pot," explains Robert Van Pelt, a historian at the University of Waterloo, and sent to Lublin to "rebuild himself—basically, running his own empire." Hence the Reinhard camps "were outside of the general concentration camp system," enjoying heavily on Ukrainian guards. Although Reinhard was the most heinous of the Nazi killing camps, Jews were murdered in the Reinhard camps—about two million—than anywhere else.

Whether or not Denzmark's case will cast light on lesser-known aspects of Holocaust history, it is clear that the upcoming trial will be legally fraught. For one thing, as Christopher Browning explains, German law excludes

a distinction between the charge of murder, with no statute of limitations, and killing, which has an expiry date. The latter charge of killing requires only evidence that someone killed. But the German requirement for a murder-related charge, the only option open to prosecutors in this case, "is that it was committed with a certain mindset. It has to be motivated out of a very low motive of hatred," Browning says. Denzmark has been charged with what Browning describes as "extreme accessory to murder," but lawyers will have to prove that he acted with heightened cruelty. "How they are going to prove something like that for Denzmark," Browning predicts, "I just don't know."

"Charges like crimes against humanity or

of German public official." That may be a tricky designation for an ex-POW working outside the traditional justice machinery.

But the most of the problems add the complexity of the trial. Many of the lawyers involved in the trial had not even been born at the time of the war. And while witnesses will be summoned to Munich, they may not be able to specifically identify Denzmark. Indeed, as Van Pelt points out, Denzmark's exact role in Sobibor cannot be known, nor can the lawyers will have to extrapolate from what is known, generally about Ukrainian guards at the time. "These were very low-ranking people," Van Pelt says, with no "muddy had not contact" regarding exact details. Even the number of reported victims in the charge—22,900—is debatable. It is not necessarily understood those killed while Denzmark was not on watch.

When it's finished, what will have been gained from a historical and legal perspective, very little. "There have been many German trials with almost no impact," says Van Pelt. "A criminal trial about what Denzmark did or did not do in 1942 and 1943 is going to teach us, as we're lucky, a little bit more about Denzmark. But the trial will be a footnote in the history of Sobibor." Adds Schindler: "The only thing that makes the trial unique is that it's taken 50 years from the time he was first required for extradition."

The Munich court has set 15 court dates, which start on November 10, 2010. According to sources who claim that Denzmark can only appear for two 90-minute sessions a day, that is, on Nov. 10, 15, the asking Denzmark will, reportedly, in a 90-minute (or measuring 24.96, 16) "hotly thought he would do as a criminal," professor David Crowe. Such a possibility weighs on Effendi Zurell. "I worry about it every day that goes by," the "World's last Nazi hunter" says. "I pray for Denzmark's health every day. Believe me, it's #

CHARGES WERE BROUGHT AGAINST 24 NAZIS AT THE FIRST NUREMBERG TRIAL



TO SOME, TRYING OLD MEN FOR HALF-CENTURY-OLD CRIMES IS AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY

the path of the killers." Overall, though, justice has often not been done. Many cases against ex-Nazi and collaborators were never even brought to a conviction. According to the German central office, a list has conducted over 11,000 preliminary interviews, of those, only 2,577 were passed along to prosecutors. Christopher Browning, director of the Holocaust and Documentation Center for the World Center of Philosophy, University of Marburg, estimates that around 6,400 have been convicted.

Some now argue that the whole process should be put to rest. For these critics, trying old men for half-century-old crimes is simply an exercise in futility. "It'd been like the Terrible of the Terrible then he would have been somebody pretty special," says Christopher Browning, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "But a guy who worked in a series of camps in which we don't know who he really did." Deitch admits recent pressing concerns. During the 1994 French trial of Paul Bauer, charged with ordering seven Jews murdered in 1944, France's judicial system also failed against the substance, arguing that a trial involving the wartime Vichy regime would divert atten-



EUROPEAN SWC'S CHIEF HAN BROWNING IN A TRIAL OF SOBIBOR CAMP

The tension of the center of this "last great Nazi trial" was born as a result of the Denzmark trial in 1950 in Ukraine. Since most of Ukraine had become a Soviet republic after the First World War, Denzmark was drafted into the Red Army to fight against the Germans in the Second World War. "You had no choice," explains David Crowe. "If you were a young man, you were forced to participate." In 1942, he was captured and became a German prisoner of war and that, says Denzmark, is where the story ends. In his version, he simply languished during his wartime years as one of many German POWs.

Schindler suggests otherwise. According

NALAYIA: POOR, SLIM PROTHORS

Q&A Malaysia's prime minister has an ambitious plan to hold the country's general, says Muslim members. She hopes to make them off-the-table legislators. Complicated legislation could be rewarded with prizes for boosting their "loyalty." The state's family and health committee chairman, Wan Usaidah Kassim, suggests. The proposal has been criticized by some. "What I mean by equity is nothing to the number of votes," the chairman explains.





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Hawaii starts 'Furlough Fridays'

BY KATHI ENGLISHART • School's out for Fridays. Hawaii's 256 public schools have switched to a four-day school week in part to statewide cost cuts. Hawaii now has the shortest academic calendar in a country, with only 161 school days each year. Parents and politicians protesting against the new "Furlough Fridays" program. "We are about to rob 12 days from our children's school year," learned Democratic representative Neil Abernethy. "They will never get back."

The policy has left parents scrambling to find adequate supervision for their beloved little ones—and local news agencies blaming the worst. The Honolulu Advertiser predicted that students would "wind up at grandma's house or simply be unsupervised at Hawaii's beaches and malls." But in the face of a pro-



The state's public schools are now on a four-days-a-week schedule.

jected \$1 billion state deficit, schools superintendents Patricia Hamaonoto insist there's no choice. "During this difficult economic period the department is making the necessary cuts."

Four-day school weeks were first introduced in the U.S. during the 1970s gas shortages as an effort to save on fuel. Today, the practice is growing. Mark Egan, director of federal affairs at the National School Boards Association, estimates that "199 schools in at least 36 states have already moved to a four-day school week."

Ironically, President Barack Obama—himself a product of Hawaiian public schools—has rejected both the challenges of a new century demand more time in the classroom. Parents at Hanaula Elementary, the very primary school that Obama attended, vehemently agree. They signed a "write-in" protest at "Furlough Fridays" two weeks ago. Hawaii's 171,660 public school students could use as much time as possible in the classroom: the state ranks 47th out of 50 in reading and mathematics among 13-year-olds. ■

The Catholic Church's war on nuns

BY TOM KENNEFICK • Nuns are struggling to find a meaningful role in Catholicism, but with Pope Benedict at the helm, the Church is doing everything it can to become more conservative—and to turn nuns back into lives of quiet obedience.

Since the reforms of Vatican II, and the dawn of modernism, nuns have been trying to gain authority and redefine their position within the Church. Now, Benedict is teaching an aversion to the role of nuns. The goal is to find out whether nuns' involvement in controversial issues (such as social justice work) and refusal to live in convents or wear religious robes is leading them astray.

"It's a witch hunt," says a Canadian religious sister who wishes to remain anonymous. "We were once part of the Church, but it's almost impossible to push back—the Church has a history of punishing dissent, and religious sisters aren't allowed to be adversarial to men. It's hard to make big changes. We just don't have enough influence." Nuns are also frustrated by the Church's duplicity. While a recent ruling welcomes conservative Anglican priests and suppresses liberals and openly gay clergy into the fold, religious sisters remain handcuffed, their subjugation enforced.

Kenneth Briggs, a journalist and author of *Double Crossed: Uncovering the Catholic Church's Betrayal of American Nuns*, says nuns deserve support, not questioning. "Priests aren't being investigated like this. There's a lot of people saying, 'Hey, aren't we treating the wrong people?'"

During the 1960s, there were many women working for change within the Church. But with an average age hovering around 70, today's nuns are often too tired for activism. Still, even a simple refusal to wear robes is seen as rebellion, and Briggs says Rome wants sisters silenced. "Nuns have a reputation of being passive, of picking up scraps of food thrown to them. This kind of thought movement is aimed at trying to appease and eliminate that free spirit." ■



It's a witch hunt, says a Canadian religious sister.

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DALE SETO, an aircraft mechanic, has watched his Air Canada season pass crumble. How his retirement dreams are at risk

WITHOUT A PLAN

Our pension system is a mess, and fixing it won't be easy

BY CHRIS SORESENSEN • Dale Seno is now turned to roasting out of the spotlight. More days, the aircraft mechanics crowd around inside the guts of an Airbus jetliner, grease on his hands. "We're kind of the underdogs," says Seno, 55, who has worked for Air Canada for the past two decades. "But in my opinion, we perform the most important functions in the entire airline industry, and that's making sure that the planes are safe and ready to fly."

Handouts of the financial crisis have depended on the quality of work done by firms and their colleagues, but among the industry's preferred ways to ensure they haven't had any gaps run in nearly a decade. This helps explain why more than 1,000 Air Canada employees represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers jealously guard their defined benefit pension plans, an increasingly rare source of secure retirement in the private sector. More than just a patch, a defined benefit plan—in which the employer guarantees to replace a certain level of benefits—are viewed by workers as a key element of overall compensation.

But the Smith's plan to retire in two years has been called into question. Last year's market crash led to the halting of one of many corporate pension plans, including Air Canada's. Combined with a long period of historically low interest rates, the crash has left many pensions seriously underfunded. And companies already grappling with the economic downturn can't afford the railroads it would take to make them whole. "You had this sort of 'super perfect storm,'" says Susan Perkins, the president of the Association of Canadian Pension Management.

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2 of 10

It's not just the grey-haired winners who are affected: increasingly, employers are abandoning traditional, planned defined benefit plans and adding new tiers to provide insured or defined contribution models, which pass the investment risk on to employees. As a result, many smaller firms don't provide coverage with pensions at all. Because of the costs, leaving a majority of Canadian private sector employees without coverage. Governments don't. So the system is in a lurch as legions of baby boomers prepare to leave the workforce over the next few decades. At the same time, do we want them? Ottawa harshly unveiled a series of proposals—rather than months to help all the seven per cent of average small business in Canada

under federal control. A step in the right direction, to be sure, but a contract out at best. America, too, has promised to take action to better protect the plants it oversees, but has yet to reveal specifics.

The harsh reality is there is no easy answer to the pension crisis. Any solution, experts say, requires meaningful legislative changes and a rare level of co-operation between Ottawa and the provinces, which are scheduled to have a spending summit in Whitehorse next month. It may also require a fundamental change in people's attitudes toward retirement planning (in general).

When their pensions in properly awarded to firms, beneficiaries of employees of World's Networks decided on Parliament Hill last week to search if any. At World's Network and add of on piece under bankruptcy protection, there's a risk due some of its underfunded pension plans. With a combined shortfall of between \$1 billion and \$1 billion either this year could be wound up. In theory, these pensions are protected by virtue of being held separately from the plan's assets, but enough underfunded plans typically say that they own or company files for protection from an creditors in World's case, some 20,000 employees on face as much as a 30 per cent or so to these benefits. A similar story is playing out with employees of other giant Atlantic Oceanic and

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RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS



FORMER NORTEL workers, who could see their retirement benefits cut by 30 per cent, rally on Parliament Hill for pension reform.

reality complements Current Global Communications, both of which are operating under bankruptcy protection and are facing serious pension shortfalls.

Two primary flaws have been offered by Ontario's economic provocateurs—companies are typically given five years to sign up under federal plans, although that has been extended in some cases to 10 years—but the concern is the ineffectiveness of sticking a Band-Aid on a heart attack patient. The Nortel situation in particular has prompted Quebec to take matters into its own hands. The provincial government has offered to backstop some of the 1,210 Nortel employees in the province by having Quebec's pension plan, not separately from the mandatory Canada Pension Plan, take charge of the assets. The arrangement was described as a "special situation," would last a maximum of five years and is bound to ratchet up the pressure on Ottawa to take similar measures for employers elsewhere.

Just how widespread is the pension problem? The average private sector plan is only 71 per cent funded, according to consulting firm Mercer. That's up slightly from a low of 66 per cent back in March thanks mostly to the market's halting steps toward recovery. The levels are higher, but still under water—68 per cent, according to the most recent numbers—on federally regulated plans, including those sponsored by Canadian National Railway, Bell Canada and Air Canada. In fact, the only group in the country that can breathe easy are those who are

employed by governments, which offer mostly paid-placed defined benefit plans that aren't in danger of being abandoned.

When you're guaranteed with employer's after retirement savings (which also take a major hit from the market crash), it all translates into a significant decrease in income and could mean the difference between a recent spend going and something, and an open begging for help to pay the bills. Only Ontario has a pension guarantee system funded by corporate contributions, that promises to pay out retirees who have had their pensioners, but only to a maximum of \$1,000 a month. But even that fund is facing a major issue shortfall. "It has created a number of issues, both on an organizational and individual," says Paul Forrester, who heads Mercer Canada's retirement, risk and finance business.

The good news, if you can call it that, is that the companies who manage to weather the economic downturn will likely be able to enter up for some of their pension shortfalls as the market recovers and the value of the assets in their plans increases. "If there's a saving company attached to the pension plan, then it's probably not a crisis," says Forrester. "The plan will get funded over time and persons will continue to get paid."

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty has weakly urged Ottawa's long-awaited response to the pension crisis a month ahead of schedule, an apparent effort to quiet the growing calls for action. The cornerstone of the plan is a proposed change to tax laws so provincially

and federally regulated companies can run pension surplus during downturn years, providing a bigger financial cushion when times are lean. At present, companies are capped at storing 30 per cent surplus in an effort to limit the revenue Ottawa loses on tax deferred pension contributions. Under Flaherty's plan, the cap would be raised to 25 per cent. Critics, however, are quick to point out that low, if any, companies are currently running pension surpluses, making the proposed changes meaningless in the near term. There was also some talkback with federal pension rules but they only apply to a tiny fraction of the country's private sector plans.

Despite the calls from Nortel employees, Ottawa stepped without of suggesting legislative changes to protect pensioners on the event of a corporate bankruptcy. While Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff said a cap on an employer company's assets are being carved up, experts argue such a move could displace other creditors and, in turn, make it difficult for small companies to raise badly needed financing, potentially forcing more hard-nosed proceedings. In short, pensioners may never be guaranteed a solid landing when their employer goes belly up.

"It's a very complex issue, with cross-border jurisdictions and creditors," says MP Ted Menzies, who's Flaherty's point man on the pension issue. He suggests the intention is simply to improve the existing system, which Mercer ranked fourth in the world in a recent

study. "We don't want to throw the baby with the bathwater," he says. "We've got a good system. The question is how we make it better."

So what to say the temporary firm and promised returns have to be done little to no "water" analysis. In Air Canada's case, the choices being offered to workers like Seitz are downright scary either let the company temporarily pull back on funding of the pension, or the airline dies. And he is one of the lucky ones. What about the estimated 60 per cent of Canadian workers who don't have a pension at all?

Some say drastic action is needed. While Canadian workers who have contributed to the CPP are guaranteed a minimum level of retirement income, the mandatory employer and employer program only aims to provide about 25 per cent of average pension savings, or about \$11,000 in 2008. The rest is supposed to be augmented by registered retirement savings plans, or RRSPs, and private sector plans. Yet, nearly 11 million working Canadians have no access to private pension plans since most are provided only by large corporations. At the same time, many of us lack enough discipline to save sufficient money for our golden years, raising questions about whether the government should do more to fill the gap.

One possible solution has been brought forward by the head of the CPP's investment board, David Denison. He has proposed that the CPP model could either be expanded by adding a supplemental pension benefit that would require increased contributions in exchange for more retirement income, or used as a blueprint for new mandatory or "opt-out only" plans requiring workers with no company pensions. Others have suggested the creation of small-employer plans that allow smaller businesses to pool their resources and share the risk associated with setting up and maintaining a plan.

Governments may also be able to take measures to slow the steep slide of private companies away from defined benefit pen-

sion programs, which are generally viewed as offering more retirement security for employees because they guarantee benefit levels, but are more costly for employers because they're on the hook if the plan doesn't perform well. Defined contribution plans, by contrast, pass the risks along to employees by having them select a basket of funds chosen by the plan's sponsor, usually the employer. Defined contribution plans have been criticized for essentially leaving people's retirement security exposed to the ups and downs of the market.

And federal rules that govern the pension industry. As head of the leading advocacy organization for pension reform, Performance, he hopes Ottawa's proposed changes to federal pension rules will light a fire under the promoters, several of which have already conducted extensive studies on the issue, but have so far failed to introduce changes. The main problems facing the system, he says, continue to be a lack of private sector oversight and the adequacy of private sector cover in general, but "having said that, there's lots of ideas floating around out there."



PENSION PLANS aren't just disappearing, they are becoming increasingly rare.

An oft-cited middle ground solution is hybrid pension models. That involves so-called "hybrid benefit" plans, where employees and employers share an amount benefit level that appears easily achievable, but which can be adjusted based on actual investment performance. If the fund performs badly, benefits may have to be lowered. If it does well, they can be increased. Unlike defined contribution programs, such plans allow assets to be pooled and managed professionally, which is similar to the way defined benefit plans are managed. The hitch is that target benefit plans are more complicated for employers to operate and pension plans couldn't be easily converted. Federal and provincial laws have gone on to ensure that likely need to be changed in order to encourage widespread adoption.

A key challenge to introducing reform will be overcoming the patchwork of provincial

in the absence of any meaningful reforms, current and would be pensioners will continue to find themselves in shifting sands, for one, isn't holding out much hope that has Air Canada's pension will deliver what it promised. Like many employees at troubled companies, he blames his predicament on carelessness for making bad corporate decisions and mismanagement. But he also says he's honored by a federal government that held him and his colleagues accountable for years in the heavily regulated airline industry. "When the government has done and top the ball on the whole situation—they're making sure the pension plans are being taken care of."

People like him are hoping someone comes up with a solution. But it's becoming increasingly clear that if you have any hope of one day retiring comfortably, you'll better start saving now. ■



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Sit back, relax and don't shop

In the new retail landscape, loitering is strictly encouraged

BY JASON EDEY • Bobby Amaral wants you to sit at home. Well, not at home, exactly. More like the lobby of a boutique hotel, or an art gallery. Which is extraordinary, really, because Amaral operates in the dusty business of selling cars. When the new Lincoln dealership in Edmonton opened in September, complete with plush leather chairs, wide-screen plasma TV and, says general

manager Amaral, "the most expensive car stereo machine in the city," it welcomed a peek into an emerging retail phenomenon—loitering. "We're in a place where people could just sit back and relax."

Loitering is a universal of almost everything we've come to expect from retail. Over the years, stores perfected the quick sell. Their actions per minute became the measure of success, with customers viewed more as queuing machines than living, breathing souls. Get in, do your business, then get out. But now a host of businesses, from car dealerships, to shoe stores, to restaurants, and even banks, want you to stay, take off your jacket and unwind. In a hyper-competitive retail landscape dominated by the recession, businesses are going to remarkable lengths to make you feel comfortable. If the waiting room was once the purgatory of retail, today it's becoming an indulgence all its own.

Nowhere is this shift more visible than in



TD BANK wants to make you feel "warm and comfortable," maybe enjoy a beverage, too

It wasn't long ago that banks were doing everything they could to get customers banking online. But when the Financial Times ranked some of the world's biggest banks, Canadian financial institutions ranked lowest thanks to their intense focus on retail banking. TD wants to build on that, and it is borrowing a page straight from Starbucks. "It's the concept of the third place," says Hockley, referring to an idea popularized by Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz. "You forget your home, your work, everyone should find a third place where everyone knows your name."



HOUSE OF SCREENS LIVES UP TO ITS NAME

AS AN ACTOR HE IS FAMOUS. House of Cards in Vancouver. It's Mike Harrison's job to scare people silly. But the tables were turned when Harrison (who plays a chairman-slashing, salary-faltered, off-duty police officer) took a break up at the end of the tour to give a "game over" screen. Jack pulled his gun on Harrison, who dropped the chair and backed away. The cop was charged with assault and reckless endangerment, and suspended without pay.

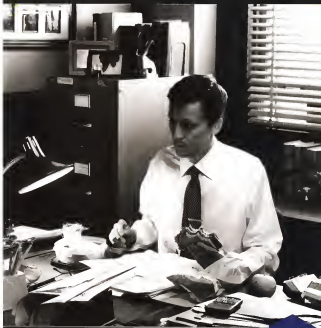
The idea of spending any more time in a bank than you have to might sound absurd, but it fits with a gradually relaxing view of our relationship with customers, says John Cusumano, a commercial and retail architect in Vancouver. "They're trying to break down a lot of the corporate culture and hierarchy that has existed in the past," he says. The changes also reflect a broader shift in society. The walls between our homes, our work and our shopping trips—even the very concepts of public and private spaces—are melting.

Which is why, on a rainy afternoon, you can find crowds hanging out in the lobbies at Don Mills, an "outdoor urban village" in Toronto. Dubbed the "art mall" when it opened in April, it encompasses a large public area, with a fountain where families routinely gather to play, even if they don't sit fast in the shops. The mall established several music festivals over the summer. "People want public spaces," says Alan Corcoran, marketing director at Don Mills. "This brings in the core country feeling." Of course, the more time people spend there, the more likely they'll spend their money, too.

If encouraging people to loiter, retailers hope to foster a deep brand connection. McDonald's perfected the fast service model but is outfitting its outlets with TVs, fireplaces and wireless Internet. Burger King plans to do the same. Apple lets you play with its pricey games in stores called "experience stores" in retail malls with as pressure to buy. Even dental offices have started offering spa treatments and massages chairs.

In some cases, the trend can't come soon enough. This year Canadian Tire unveiled a new brand of store. In the past, its service garages were known for their sleek waiting areas and staff benches that screened "get off your lawn and buy soon" signs. But David Heiko, vice-president of store design, says retailers now know it's impossible to force customers to do something they don't want to. If anything, the retail lounge today is "a decompression area from your shopping experience," he says. The new Canadian Tire lounges have plush leather chairs, TVs, Internet stations and play areas for children, all arranged neatly around easy-to-walk and laminate flooring. "We've tried to make the waiting areas as comfortable as home," he says. "[They] look better than my house."

You've survived week after week of market volatility. You've made some changes, like packing your lunch for the first time. But through it all you always kept your head up. Face today's challenges with knowledge and discipline. Invesco Trimark can arm you with the information you need at knowingpays.ca.



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ECONOWATCH

A WEEKLY SCORECARD ON THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY IN NORTH AMERICA AND BEYOND

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

Although the U.S. economy is growing again, it's still being "wired" with GDP up just 1.8 per cent during the third quarter, the 11th gain in two years. Some believe it's just a recovery in the fall, but others worry that the government was due to Uncle Sam's spending. Either way, not many people think it'll feel like a recession.



STEVE MAICH

When... glad that's over.

Let the record show that the Great Recession of 2008-09 was finally slain this past summer. The gross domestic product of the U.S. & Canada grew at an annual rate of 1.5 per cent between July and September. Nobody is going to confuse these with the go-go days of 1994, or even 2006. But after a bleak spring and a gut-wrenching winter, we have a bona fide recovery on our hands, and that alone is reason to celebrate, even if you're not convinced it'll last.

So, was that it? That's all of the fun we have? No, because there's no holding the rain! So soon we forget. And in truth, for millions of people around the world who lost their jobs and have no immediate prospects of getting a new one, this recovery isn't nearly over. The good news is that our social safety net is working, more or less, as they are designed to—something about the brand new and terms of trillion-dollar economic shocks.

We're also fortunate that the unprecedented global conservation of government in the markets has simply reflected us by the short hand "market" that has the desired effect. It may not be efficient, and it certainly creates longer-term problems that will need to be dealt with. But when government poses handouts of billions of dollars into the economy—helping citizens for more than they're worth, paying roads that may or may not need to be paved, nearly single-month default to beleaguered consumers—you can buy yourself a decent little recovery. That might sound obvious now, but 12 months ago nobody was sure that would even work.

The huge, unanswered question, of course, is whether recovery is possible, in that manner can really be called "recovery," or if the thing we're seeing is really something else. Specifically, how many bought ourselves a little time? As Robert Bruce, author of a well-regarded economics newsletter, noted this week, businesses are still cutting inventories, not building them. They are still laying off workers, not hiring them. And, after the initial rush of consumer accounts opened, retail spending has slowed.

Here in Canada, the economy unexpectedly fell in growth in August—a sobering reminder of just how nervous and fragile the situation remains.

The bulk of the numbers say this is recovery, and a pretty decent one at that. It just doesn't really feel like one. ■

OVERDRAWN by Jason Logan

JUST TO CLARIFY



THE GOOD NEWS

Canada prices up

Household prices continued to soar higher in August. The Toronto National Bank index rose two per cent from the month before, with increases coming in all three categories. The index rose 1.4 per cent from the year before, but the annual decline in March 2009 was 1.4 per cent in May.



Master mechanics

Even credit to Mark Carney, the Bank of Canada governor, the bank known how to log a loan. After setting his sights on the dollar, saying it poses a threat to Canada's economic recovery, the loaner began falling back to earth. At the end of last week, the dollar is at a relatively level in three weeks.

Fewer on EI

Armenian's job market continues to improve, albeit in baby steps.

First-time claims for employment insurance fell by 1,000 to 514,000 during the third week of October, while the number of ongoing insurance claims dropped to 1.5 million.

THE BAD NEWS

Bringing down the house

Armenian's housing recovery still looks dubious after sales of new homes plunged 5.6 per cent in September, disappointing economists and sending markets wobbling into a tailspin. Home sales fell to an annual rate of just 142,000, nearly 40,000 below what the analysts were expecting. Economists attributed the drop to the convergence of a mix of factors for new homeowners. Congress has proposed extending the program.



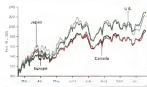
Shrinking GDP

Canada's economy fell back into the red in August, shrinking 0.1 per cent. This follows

flat growth in July, behind the contraction in the energy and manufacturing industries. The poor showing the microeconomic questions about whether the Canadian economy will be able to grow in the third quarter, as expected.

GRAPH OF THE WEEK

A SOARING LOOSE, ISN'T IT ALL? There's a lot to like about a strong Canadian dollar for retailers and manufacturers, but it could make it more difficult here than in some other parts of the world. Here are oil prices in four currencies at last week.



SIGNS OF THE TIMES



► Buying a Wii for Christmas could be a lot easier than in years past. Japan's Nintendo, which makes the video game console, has slashed its sales forecast for the week ending October 10, citing competition from the Sony PlayStation and Microsoft Xbox platforms. Even last year, when console sales were near their peak, holiday buyers faced huge lineups for a chance to snag one of the gaming systems.

► Who says history is dead? Toyota has been suffering steep losses and slowing sales, but that hasn't stopped it from building a new \$417,000 super car, the 918-horsepower Lexus LFA. In fact, there is so much demand that Toyota won't actually sell the car. It will only lease them for the first two years to make sure they aren't snapped up by brokers who want to flip them for a profit. Toyota says it plans to make just 500 LFAs.



"The benchmark was to measure the strength of our economy is not just whether our GDP is growing, but whether we are creating jobs, whether families are having no matter what paying their bills, whether our businesses are hiring and doing well." —President Barack Obama

"For every person out of work, for every family facing financial stress, for every small business facing a credit crunch, the recession is more alive and acute." —U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner

"We're beginning to crawl out a very deep hole."

—Ken Magland, president, GreatHeart Economics



"If, as we fear, consumer growth occurs unusually late, then GDP growth will slow to a crawl again." —Paul Solberg, Capital Economics

"The challenge here is to get organic growth—growth that isn't helped by fiscal stimuli." —Brian Brouneau, economist, IHS Global Vantage

"While some may question the stimulus at the outset of the recovery, it is a claim only the Billion Boy's dad would make." —Republican Rep. Kevin Brady (Ohio)

THE ECONOGAUGE

Our weekly estimate of the growing mood among investors and consumers



How resilient is the human spirit today?

Find out at knowingpays.ca.



WHAT A WASTE

We throw out, at great environmental cost, a horrific amount of the food we grow. Why?

BY NANCY MACDONALD • Forty years ago, North America's potato growers feared a cereal fly marring supplies, and leaping disease—and prices—high, the United Potato Growers of America, which later helped found a Canadian counterpart, came to be the CPAGC of spuds. Within a year of forming, however, United was facing public revulsion: the consumers, it turned out, was mixing farmers to destroy crops to loose prices. In a single year, the Idaho chapter took roughly four million 300-lb. bags of already harvested, perfectly good potatoes and plowed them right back into the ground—a legal, if outrageous, act. Today, it took one farmer three days to bury his share: 1,000,000 worth. In 2006 alone, United lugged potato crops 6.8 million kilometers (potato sacks leave the U.S. and Canadian markets). Farmers' open-pit rot harvests soared—up 45 per cent over the previous year.

Response to this news was uniformly berated, but the truth is, in much of the West, produce is destroyed every day of every week, on a much larger scale and for a reason even more offensive than profit incentives. We've grown accustomed in North America to leacy supermarkets with shiny, uniform shelf bins and vegetables. But it's no accident that all that perfect produce lines the shelves. Fruits and veggies are culled to ensure that only those with the right size, shape, style or color end up for sale. A hint of wear is a foul for an otherwise perfectly edible apple, which then winds up in the trash.

Between 25 and 50 per cent of most fruit and vegetable crops are in fact rejected by Western supermarkets. In British supermarkets, more than 40 per cent of produce is perfectly standard—yet consumers can't get the full length in one size; a user manual explained to Thomas Stuart, author of new book, *Waste: Uncovering the Global Food Scandal*. A farmer meanwhile, estimated that fully one-third of his crop is cut, grinded for cosmetic reasons

creating mountains of reject potatoes: bent, dented, double lobed, too big, too small, too waxy, with eyes, not perfectly smooth, not perfectly rounded—all, of course, perfectly edible. In Britain, government law actually makes it illegal to sell carrots or leeks that are blemished in diameter, and there with a twist, or secondarily blemish—all naturally occurring features. Globally, banana producers are among the worst offenders: waste is estimated at between 34 and 40 per cent.

Supermarket waste is just one part of a colossal and growing environmental problem: food waste. And consumers share the blame. The way food is produced in the West has changed more in the past 50 years than in the previous 10,000. The agricultural industry cut out new produce-enhanced quantities of

low forms of food waste per year. Wheat, in fact, is so much a part of that industry world view that it was even a euphemism, think, that it is food was to landfill because it didn't sell. In Japan that figure is 2.6 million tonnes in Canada, nearly 60 per cent of all food produced is wasted. In the U.S., the figures rose 50 per cent. And in fact, those numbers could be even higher: Christopher Haskins, for nearly the chairman of Northern Foods, one of Britain's food-processing firms, estimates that 70 per cent of all food produced in Britain is being wasted. Stuart, who writes with the searing anger of a modern Upton Sinclair, blames sloppy management, historic neglect of environmental and social responsibilities, and a refusal to adopt more efficient technologies. Then, of course, there's con-

being fed by supermarkets' own desire for uniformity and picture-perfect displays, says Jonathan Bloom, author of the forthcoming book *American Wasteland*. "Appearance has trumped taste, and nutrition," says Bloom, who, in researching the book, took a job at the produce department of a North Carolina grocery store to see what was happening behind closed doors. Then, one of his primary roles was culling and checking "questionable produce." "There's no joy in it, in fact," he adds with a rueful chuckle.

Laws, perversely, seem to bolster food waste. In the U.K., apples under 10 cm in diameter or 70 grams in weight have been banned. (Those too red or not red enough, meanwhile, have been rejected by supermarkets.) To the absurdity, add European "cos-

ties raises the shelves question: why wouldn't growers and supermarkets give away the food instead of throwing it out?" Insects, Bloom explains, is part of it. The other major tolog up super produce instead of just checking it as a disclaimer with the rest is "all the buyers want people need," he says. In the U.S. at least, liability used to be an issue, though it is no longer. To encourage super markets to donate excess food, Congress enacted the Good Samaritan act, which protects supermarkets from legal liability if they donate to good faith. But other legal disincentives remain. The law, for instance, could have been fixed up to \$9,000 had been given away the fruit (government officials say such rules are in place to ensure quality and uniformity).

That said, most supermarkets proudly insist they do donate surplus food to charity. Safeway, one of Western Canada's dominant supermarket chains, for example, told Macdonald's donates 5.6 million pounds of food, an admirable amount—unless you consider that this represented 30 per cent of its annual food, a figure typical of the industry in Britain. The

and amounting to 15,000 tonnes of fresh bread a day. Another example of systemic waste has been dubbed "overproduction waste." This is, manufacturers will make more of a product than supermarketers can actually sell, in the convenience-food sector (supplying ready-made meals and sandwiches) overproduction waste levels reach 55 per cent of a company's total output, meaning that, yes, more food is being wasted than sold.

And as if donors needed any more reason to feel guilty about the grilling salmon or roasting dinner on their plates, it is the global fisheries, an industry plagued by greed, ignorance, corruption and terminal shortsightedness, that are responsible for some of the most stomach-turning examples of waste. The European Commission estimates that 40 to 60 per cent of all fish caught by European fleets are thrown back to sea because they are too small, or the wrong species (Greenpeace puts the figure even higher, suggesting that 117 million of the 186 million fish caught in U.K. waters are tossed back to sea). Indeed, the biggest waste, and source of pain, isn't even about the fish we actually eat: the UN Environmental Programme estimates that humans eat barely half of all fish caught. (When waste from scraps, rot, spoiled and edible matter are



20 TO 40 PER CENT OF BANANAS ARE DISCARDED



WE EAT BARELY HALF OF ALL FISH CAUGHT; IN THE U.K. 117 MILLION FISH ARE TOSSED BACK TO SEA, DEAD

ment and grain at remarkably cheap prices, creating an abundance of food, and profit. Consumers, lulled by cheap prices, are unaware of the hidden costs of producing so much, and the staggering waste required to stock the supermarkets machine.

The may be less in the supermarket, which, in the U.K., generates an estimated 1.6 million tonnes. "Supermarkets say consumers won't buy locally produced," Stuart explains. But when in 2007, Britain's potato crop failed and retailers were forced to sell locally, natural-looking potatoes, "no one wanted an eye" sales were not affected, nor did consumers lag any complaints.

But, he says, once another standard is

formity rules." Yet, bureaucrats in Brussels have ruled up laws to ensure that all EU citizens are eating fruit and veg of the same shape and size. In 2008, one British wholesaler was forced to chuck 1,000 tonnes for being four grams lighter than the 62 gram cut-off. "The equivalent of being one million one too thin," says Stuart.

reality, according to Stuart, is that most waste goes straight to the landfill. Some waste is inevitable, but the trouble is how much of this has been built into the manufacturing process. Martha & Spencer, for example, makes its sandwich supplies pick four days of bread from each loaf they produce—the crust and the first slice at either

taken into account, the amount of fish based proteins actually consumed amounts to just 30 per cent of the marine animals removed annually from the oceans, according to Charles Clover, author of *The End of the Line*. The world's top marine mammals, meanwhile, continue to warn that the global fishery will collapse within 30 years if trends

continue (for some species, it may be too late). The journal *Nature* estimates that the oceans have already lost more than 30 percent of large predatory fishes, like cod, salmon and tuna.

Consumers do not escape blame for the maritime waste problem: the average American throws away 96 kg of edible food each year. In Britain 58 per cent of all the carrots grown currently rot in the fields. That is Stuart says, "for every carrot you eat, you

average of spending on food can reach 75 per cent of income.) Waste and the amount of food available per person have risen noticeably in tandem. One literaturally from 1950 per food waste is two to three per cent, U.S. studies from the 1960s and '70s put waste levels at seven per cent. Now rich countries, which produce up to 100 per cent more food than needed to satisfy their population requirements, waste more than 25 per cent of household food (the increasing food supply and

move it into groundwater or nearby water bodies, can poison fish and amphibians, render water undrinkable, or enter the food chain. In cities, even recycling and composting generate greenhouse gases: they require someone to pick up waste and distribute. And despite the significant growth of waste-destruction programs we're still generating more and more garbage every year, says waste management expert Paul van der Werf, noting that Tennesseans generated 74 kg more waste per person last year than just 10 years ago. Indeed, from 1990 to 2005, we increased our municipal waste by 24 per cent, compared to the OECD average increase of just five per cent. Currently, Canada produces 791 kg per capita of municipal waste each year, placing us dead last among the 17 OECD countries surveyed by the Conference Board of Canada.

All of which matters most when you consider the massive environmental trade off that comes with buying a third more food than we actually eat. The environmental fallout goes far beyond the wasted food. To the discarded heap, add the resources spent to grow the food: fertilizers, pesticides, oil for the tractor and for transport. In the U.S., the energy-intensive food system uses 19 per cent of fossil fuels—more than any other sector of the economy. Although experts quibble over the precise figure, modern farming is thought to contribute more greenhouse gases to the atmosphere than anything else North America does. 17 percent, according to one study. Factory farms have become one of the biggest sources of pollution on the continent. So when we waste food, the industrial food system, we are also wasting oil, meaning greenhouse gases, polluting waterways and hastening global warming.

have paid for at least one more to be thrown away." Laziness is even worse. For every serving of fresh salad eaten in the U.S., another two have been thrown away. In all, billions, who have had their trash mountains without a forest fire, toss an average of 70 kg, totalling \$16.5 billion, including 456 million containers of unopened yogurt, 37 apples per person and 2.6 billion slices of bread a year—enough to satiate hunger of more than 30 million people, Stuart adds.

So how did we get here? Government largesse, and the industrialization of agriculture, have brought food prices to historic lows between 1974 and 2005, food production world markets fell by fully 75 per cent in real terms. Until 1952, Americans spent more than 20 per cent of their incomes on food. Last year that portion hit an all-time low of 5.6 per cent—even is the average number of calories available per person per day rose 50 percent. (In Pakistan, by comparison, the per-

centage of spending on food can reach 75 per cent of income.) Waste and the amount of food available per person have risen noticeably in tandem. One literaturally from 1950 per food waste is two to three per cent, U.S. studies from the 1960s and '70s put waste levels at seven per cent. Now rich countries, which produce up to 100 per cent more food than needed to satisfy their population requirements, waste more than 25 per cent of household food (the increasing food supply and

steep drop in prices are also strongly correlated with the fact that in obesity-ravaged, two-thirds of Americans are overweight, half of those are obese, and it is believed that one third of those born after 2000 will develop diabetes, a related condition).

Then there is the staggering cost of disposing of all that wasted food, paid for by taxes, and of leaving it to rot in landfills. Canada's landfills are responsible for up to 18 per cent of human-made methane, a greenhouse gas. Bacteria that breaks down rotting waste produce acids that, when they

Even worse, many of the environmental consequences, then waste, so much food—such as deforestation, water depletion and soil erosion—are being found in developing countries, where increasing amounts of corn, oil, grain and produce are being grown to satiate the West's growing appetite. When we pay Brazil to chop down the rainforest to grow soy, or drive Kampuchea the Mekong delta to make sugar, we of course also hasten the never-ending extension of the agricultural frontier into the world's last remaining forests and wetlands. ■

FOR EVERY SERVING OF FRESH SALAD EATEN IN THE U.K., ANOTHER TWO HAVE BEEN THROWN AWAY



A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME...

Driving a Prius might be seen as environmentally friendly (as far as cars go), but manufacturing them isn't. So, to offset the emissions at its plant factories—and the criticism that goes with it—Toyota has engineered two new flower species for use in its plants: a cherry sage variant that absorbs nitrogen in the soil and a geranium that removes heat from the atmosphere, meaning less energy is needed to cool the factory. Bonus: They look pretty, too.

BDC
Entrepreneurs first

2009 YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARD WINNERS



Julie Conway
TEA winner for Ontario and winner of the Export Development Canada Export Leadership Award



Patrick Grogan
TEA winner for Quebec and winner of the Export Development Canada Export Leadership Award

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YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JEAN-RÉNÉ HALDÉ
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER—BDC

The winners of the Business Development Bank of Canada's Young Entrepreneur Awards are champions in more ways than one. We applaud them, of course, for their outstanding achievements in building thriving businesses. But we also honour them for their contribution to the economic vitality of Canada.

Successful young entrepreneurs are as valuable a natural resource as any in Canada. They turn dreams into reality and in doing so produce more economic jobs and generate wealth. We thank all those who participated in this year's competition. We also thank the partners of the Young Entrepreneur Awards for their support for this important contest.

Building a successful business is not for the unprepared or shy of work. It takes energy, creativity and perseverance. It also takes support. At BDC, our job is to promote entrepreneurship by supporting Canadians who are creating and growing companies. We do so by offering them financing, venture capital and consulting services as well as recognition like the Young Entrepreneur Awards.

We select our winners by assembling panels of businesspeople, representatives of our partners, members of chambers of commerce and BDC employees from every province and territory. The panels evaluate each application according to the company's success, the originality of the business concept and the firm's growth potential and involvement in the community. We also consider the entrepreneur's age when the business was started and any special challenges he or she has had to overcome.

Everyone benefits from the Young Entrepreneur Awards. Winners get visibility and an opportunity to expand their networks. The business community benefits from their dynamic success stories — a source of inspiration for both established and prospective entrepreneurs. And Canada benefits from the wealth created by them encouraged by the awards.

We offer our congratulations to this year's winners for their achievements, their inspiration and their contribution.

WINNERS

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

ALBERTA

Chris Barnes | Mike Barnes |
Steve Barnes | Matt Barnes

ENVIRO FOAM INSULATION

Enviro Foam Insulation already has the most important seal of approval: five stars from homeowners.



Company founder Steve Barnes, 31, and his brothers, Matt, 30, Chris, 32, and Mike, 32, had their own construction business and regularly saw the damage resulting from older types of insulation. After finding a highly effective, environmentally-friendly soy-based alternative, Steve knew he was onto something big and launched the company in 2005. Branding and marketing the product at trade shows and seminars, he built a website and saw interest skyrocket. Joined by his brothers to keep up with soaring demand, they made the decision to franchise after less than a year. They recently launched a do-it-yourself line of Enviro Foam in a can that seals small gaps and are preparing to introduce kits that will enable people to spray Enviro Foam for small touch-ups. "The feedback from customers is phenomenal," Steve says. "With 29 franchises across Canada, Enviro Foam has plans for rapid expansion, including 350 locations in major centres across North America by 2010."

Since moving across the province to open The Root Cellar Village Green Grocer two years ago, they have made their business a preferred destination for an ever-growing number of shoppers. "The 100-mile diet trend is really working in our favour," says Daisy. The couple and their close-knit "family" of managers stock the shelves with products from upward of 100 suppliers, ranging from small "mom and pop backyard garden" operators to large greenhouse operations. Recycling, composting and waste reduction initiatives are core elements of their business practices. Providing both conventional and organic products, competitive pricing and a pleasant shopping ambience, The Root Cellar has grown beyond their wildest expectations. Thanks to solid experience in the grocery business and good planning, The Root Cellar is doing five times the volume they had expected and now employs 50 people. "We love what we're doing," says Daisy. "The more it works, the more passionate we become."

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Daisy Leslie Orser | Adam Orser

THE ROOT CELLAR VILLAGE
GREEN GROCER

Daisy Leslie Orser, 31, and Adam Orser, 35, with three young sons in tow, are feeding Victoria's voracious appetite for fresh, local produce.



WINNERS

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

ONTARIO

John Curbery INFINITY INC.

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888-888-8888



Investing in developing a technology framework which drastically reduces the time it takes to develop software solutions and drawing on top-notch software professionals, the company provides much sought-after solutions to create, publish and manage digital content and enable collaboration for portals, websites, communities, document management, event coordination, mentoring, and online learning. John, now 27, built his first website at 16, winning a prestigious MIT-affiliated award that placed him as a top young Web architect. In 2001, the young prodigy launched Infinity, which today boasts a robust Web application framework and a seasoned team of Web experts. "We made a strategic decision to focus on quality and on building a strong team. And we continue to grow in the midst of recession," he says. Infinity's solutions have been specialised for a wide range of private sector corporations, educational institutions and associations, as well as healthcare organisations, municipalities and school districts.

Winner of the Export Development Canada Export Excellence Award

The Export Development Canada Export Excellence Award is presented to a 2009-2010 business who has achieved outstanding strategic planning and rapid growth in 2010.

Eireann 34 broke the stereotypical fitness club mold when she developed her business from her vision of an all-inclusive, non-judgmental, empowering group activity. Based in Charlotteville, UFIT provides pay-as-you-go \$5 fitness classes for one and all in a big street party atmosphere. UFIT's philosophy has struck a chord with Islanders, 100 of whom turn out on average per class. "We have people of all shapes and sizes from all walks of life, ranging from young children to grandmothers in their 70s," says Eireann. Since its start-up seven years ago, UFIT continues to expand and currently covers eight locations across the island with more than 20 classes per week. The company has also developed its own charity UFIT CARES, and added a professional speaking component: The Power To Believe. For Eireann the most rewarding part is the feedback she and her team receive. "There's nothing like the feeling you get when someone tells you that you have changed their life."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Eireann Rgby UFIT

People don't need to wear Spandex to burn off a mean Rich & Roll thingy class.



QUEBEC

Patrick Grégoire BOREAL-INFORMATION STRATEGIQUES INC. (BOREALSI)

From Mining, Quebec, Borealsi is a leading provider of IT services and solutions for the mining industry. In 2009, Borealsi was named one of the most successful IT companies in Quebec, Canada, and North America.



Borealsi provides a consulting service that tracks all aspects of development projects and reports on how they impact local populations, helping clients in the mining and petroleum sectors evaluate risks and make strategic decisions. "Good relationships with local communities are essential to the success of a development project," explains Patrick. When he created Borealsi five years ago, he recognized that there was increasing pressure on corporations carrying out large infrastructure projects in developing countries to adhere to the World Bank's social responsibility and sustainability standards. Drawing on his past experience on development projects in Africa, he teamed up with IT specialist Jules Piquette, a fellow geography graduate, to offer the social responsibility solution. With a stellar reputation as a leader in its field, Borealsi now employs a team of 17 specialists and is also helping companies manage their carbon footprint, a service this company is bringing to the North American market.

Winner of the Deloitte Corporate Social Responsibility Award

The Deloitte Corporate Social Responsibility Award is presented to firms that deliver value to society through their business operations and policies, including environmental protection, human resources management and community well-being.

As an environmentally sound alternative to spray painting, powder coating is much more durable and can be used on any type of metal. "It's basically bulletproof," Charlie explains. Johan, a native of Holland who has a mechanical engineering background as well as powder coating expertise, and Charlie, with a banking background, established Plains Custom Powder Coating in 2007. After securing two large agricultural equipment manufacturing clients, they rapidly grew the business, building strong client relationships with personalized service, a guarantee of quality and adherence to lean manufacturing principles. Today they have nine full-time employees, with more during peak periods, as well as students on term programs. "What we have achieved here would never have been possible in Europe," says Johan. In 2009, they will move into a new 12,000 square foot facility they are building on four acres of land, with room for further expansion.

SASKATCHEWAN

Johan van den Berg | Charlie van den Berg PLAINS POWDER COATING LTD.

With the success of their custom powder coating business, Johan van den Berg, 33, and his wife, Charlie, 34, are putting the finishing touches on a Canadian dream.



WINNERS YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

YUKON

Julien Plourde

TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS COMPANY LTD.

Plugging into a market need, Julien Plourde, 27, has engineered a permitting future helping public utilities and other large organizations in British Columbia operate more efficiently.



Unique in the region, the company provides custom electronic solutions, as well as industrial control and automation systems — including applications like power management controllers — that enable organizations to boost efficiency. Julien, raised in Northern Ontario, honed his skills with electronics, automation and controls in nationwide competitions throughout high school, moving into electrical engineering at the University of Waterloo. An undergraduate co-op placement first brought him to the Yukon, where he landed an initial contract after graduation, securing up Technical Solutions Company Ltd. in 2006. Technical Solutions distinguishes itself from larger competitors in Western Canada with end-to-end solutions, guaranteeing quality from initial design to installation and ongoing maintenance. “Before a project even starts, we can show the client exactly how everything is going to work together,” he explains. Today with a team of five and an abundance of opportunities, the growing company is busy recruiting additional talent.



PACIFIC RIM NATIONAL PARK: Ruth Becker (left) hands off the Olympic flame to Ralph Brubaker at Long Beach on Sunday, Nov. 1

TOUCHED BY THE FLAME

Reactions to the Olympic torch are remarkably intense

BY KEN MacLEOD • The Vancouver March ceremony of Coombe, B.C., was one of those iconic wide open in the road that elevate a Canadian past into an adventure. There's a flea market, an army surplus store, a toy amusement park — and that race with the goose on the roof. It was here, to Coombe, and specifically to the guest-filled roof of the

officer-edition barbers, and like BRC ran business. Then came the police. Lots of police and family, surrounded by yet more security, came a-bowling. Dave Johnson of Seattle's "Nurse" magazine seconds the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee (VANOC), clapping into the windows of Coombe with the torch held high. He was greeted like a rock star by a crowd of several hundred, as he handed off the flame to one of the happy handful of other torchbearers, some of whom carried the flame onto the roof.



The goose, pedaled and much photographed twenty attempts, seemed indifferent. Not so Johnson, who calls the flame a symbol of peace, international cooperation and excellence, and who offered his spent torch to any and all who wished to hold it. Equally pumped was 18-year-old Melissa Rheault of Victoria, who had long ago submitted his request to be a bearer to the Coombe website. Like most men, he paid \$150 to keep it. He'll display the torch in his bedroom. But first he was headed back to his afternoon hockey game in Victoria to show his teammates. “They’re really a nice bunch of guys,” he says. “If anything, they deserve this torch as much as I do.” As for the Olympics themselves, which arrive in Vancouver Feb. 13 with the torch’s scheduled arrival—come hell or high water, and prob-

ably both—“It’s going to be a beautiful three weeks,” he says.

The flame stopped in Coombe for just nine minutes, one of 13 stops on that day’s 240 km trek. Down the road, it was game of honour at a raucous celebration in Port Alberni, a sports-and-community that sent 64 people to the Talking Olympics in support of local wrestler and firefighter Trevor Cross, who, of course, carried the torch in Victoria that evening, inside a newspaper in the capable hands of local legend Ralph Brubaker, who later pronounced the deep freeze, after one false start in crashing waves, “a piece of cake.”

On Saturday, the flame had crossed 1200 metres, the Comox Valley tribe outside Duncan. There to give it was Chief Lydia Ithreane. He wore a tawny red of woven cedar, and stood in high leather boots with intricate beaded. Like many in the crowd, she wore a hand-knit Comoxian wool sweater. A point was being made. Hers was a gift from her mother when she graduated from law school. On as back her mother, Amelia, learned two lessons, corners of knowledge and history.

It was only the day before when the chief helped broker a deal with VANOC and the Hudson’s Bay Company to include genuine Comoxian sweaters in its Olympic stores, to supplement a successful line of sweaters that borrow heavily from the tribal design. The local silk was a “flag in the face” to knit-ers like Marissa Wilson, 22, who has been



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"WHEN YOU ACTUALLY REACH TO THE NEXT TORCH, THERE'S THAT SECOND OF FEAR, WHAT IF IT DOESN'T LIGHT?"



ATHLETES 2010 Simon Whitfield and Carolee La May, the flame carriers. Whitfield, home of the Cowichan sweater

hundreds of torch relays and many many dreams. The flame is a catalyst, a catalyst that ignites the chemistry of these torches. These reactions are remarkably ancient, though some are gristlier than others.

There was a swagging, if infamous moment, as the flame arrived at the grounds of the B.C. legislature Friday morning. The Olympic cauldron was to be lit on live television by John Farthing, the CEO of VANOC, and Darlene Poole, the widow of Jack Poole, who was the architect of Vancouver's winning bid and chairman of the organizing committee. Poole had died a week earlier of pancreatic cancer. Within hours of the flame being lit in Greece. For almost a minute, Farthing and Darlene stood with frozen smiles, raptly taking the cauldron between them. Farthing said into his "I felt like 10 minutes," he called VANOC executive vice-president David Colby, who insists there is a backup plan for

every contingency. "We, the women of Vancouver, extend their hand to the torch," they said. The burning agony extended to several of Canada's men, who had cap relays. The first two Olympic medalists to carry the torch on Friday, speed skater Carolee La May and bobsledder Simon Whitfield, admitted their hands slipped when their torch gave an unceremonious "clank" before landing into flame. "Is it broken?" wondered Whitfield. "We didn't want to do anything wrong," added La May. David Selchen-Larsen, the Olympic torch relay coordinator, said during his earlier relay, "I was a little nervous, but I was really watching for the 'hey guys' the men who seem to be the runners to make the torch's fuel supply. 'Hey guys, you actually need to be the next torch,'" she says, "there's that split second fear, oh my gods, what if it doesn't light?"

For more stressful for Victoria police and relay security was Friday's Van Olympic Festival and a subsequent "Zombie March." It drew some 100 anti-demonstrators to protest the Olympics' "enhancement of capitalism, colonization and social control." They rejected racism, from Aboriginal rights to the social heart, to violence, drug, health, culture, inadequate housing and poverty—all better practices, they said, for the billions of Olympic spending. Their evening march started downtown traffic and caused torch security to divert from the route at one point, causing 10 torchbearers the chance to run their routes. Marchers were scattered on the street in an apparent attempt to trip up the torchbearers of the Vancouver police base squad who were at Victoria for crowd control.

The protesters rioted on the grounds of the legislature, where, surrounded by the thousands are making the men loaded with weapons, they chanted slogans, banged drums and sang and danced and a shillie in their. Later, with an escort of police descended to keep all on things, they marched away shouting, "This is what democracy looks like." Most of those approached by Merle's refused to give their names.

This reporter recalled speaking with Jack Poole more than ten years ago, before Vancouver's victory over Greece. He called it an Olympic protest, the No People. "I don't like the No People," he said. "Why not be for something?" he said. "Take that energy and be for something rather than against something." Poole was smiling, and understanding a capitalist, all those things the combat marchers deny. He was also just one of the guys who grew up poor. He built more affordable housing in Vancouver than most anyone before or since. His presence wasn't that devoted from the No People. For both, the Olympics is a means to an end, and the flame torches it in very different ways. ■

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PREDATOR OR PUTZ?

New evidence suggests that the famous T. Rex wasn't so scary after all

BY KATE MARSH With its bone-crushing teeth and monstrous proportions, there's no creature more fearsome in the public imagination than the mighty *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Sixty-five million years after it went extinct, though, T. Rex is having an identity crisis. In recent months, much of what we know about this iconic creature has been "flipped on its ear," says Stephen Brusatte, a vertebrate paleontologist at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Indeed, the tyrannosaur's size, speed and eating habits have all been thrown into question, leaving dinosaur-watching fans of T. Rex reeling as to how to feel after all.

The North American T. Rex and its Asian cousin, the *Tibetanosaurus*, are two of about 10 dinosaurs that fall into the tyrannosaur family, Brusatte says. Because tyrannosaurs were at the top of the prehistoric food chain, paleontologists long believed different members of this family evolved to eat different things. But a newly described fossil has challenged this assumption. With its thin teeth, horns, and hollow bones, *Albertosaurus* was a "bullier rex" compared to T. Rex, says Brusatte, lead author of the study. Unearthed in Mongolia's Gobi Desert, *Albertosaurus* lived side by side with the Asian *Tibetanosaurus*, suggesting not all tyrannosaurs were "top chameleon brutes," he notes. Perhaps because *Albertosaurus* wasn't viewed as competition, *Tibetanosaurus* didn't seem to mind this smaller, dastardly relative.

But *Albertosaurus* isn't the only recent addition to the tyrannosaur family tree. In September, researchers unveiled a 125-million-year-old fossil with many of T. Rex's defining features, at only one per cent of its weight. Like T. Rex, *Elaboratops* possessed long, curved teeth 6 million years before its larger cousin, unlike T. Rex, which was good up to its teeth. *Rapinotus* was only about three metres long, and weighed just 150 lb.

Smaller tyrannosaurs have been discovered before, but they're something special about *Rapinotus*, its peers' forebears, which are much like T. Rex's. The crested one-eyed rams were thought to have evolved as competitors for its gregarious size, notes Paul Ser-



TINY T. REX: *Albertosaurus* (right) was only three metres long, weighed just 140 lb., and lived 60 million years before the T. Rex (left). It may have eaten insects.

res, a paleontologist at the University of Chicago, but *Rapinotus* suggests otherwise since it has disproportionately small arms too, despite its smaller stature. T. Rex's tiny arms could have evolved out of some behaviour, then, or might be a compensation for its massive head, a feature *Rapinotus* shares with T. Rex. *Sereno* says, both dinosaurs have a similar body plan—one he describes as "just go legs"—that helped T. Rex and *Tibetanosaurus* dominate the food chain, across the northern hemisphere, for millions of years.

Jason Long, indeed—who could forget that name at Jurassic Park, when the bloodthirsty dinosaur runs down a Jeep in full life, though, T. Rex might not have been a spy. Just back in 1976, D. Candelaria at the University of Manchester, and studies the more recent of dinosaurs. Using a CT scan, *Jason* takes an image of a dinosaur skeleton, then "picks the sections in software they use to make animations, like *Silence*," he says. Adding muscle and bone-

recreating allows reconstruction muscle strength, tendon length, and so on—then tries to figure out to what end these muscles moved, to reveal the dinosaur's gut. The computer runs through millions of possibilities, much like cracking a code. "Usually, the model falls straight over, because the pattern is rubbish," he says. "When it finally does, though, *Bates* has a better idea of how the dinosaur might have walked."

Working with the skeleton of an *Araucanotyrannus*, a predatory dinosaur similar in size to T. Rex, *Bates* has determined it would have had an average running speed of about 34 km/h, slightly slower than a typical human. (The margin of error is "huge," he admits, since the dinosaur's muscle size isn't known.) *Bates*'s PhD supervisor, zoologist Bill Sellers, based on a tyrannosaur's running speed of 39 km/h, a bit faster than a human but slower than an ostrich. Still, it's quite a difference from some early estimates that pegged a T. Rex's

top speed at 70 km/h, according to Tim Tink, a leading head of paleontology for the Royal Saskatchewan Museum—and nowhere near as fast as the T. Rex that ran down the Jeep, a scene *Bates* calls "rubbish."

Here comes or not, most paleontologists agree T. Rex was a predator, but one of the world's most prominent says otherwise. Jack Horner, named after the real *T. Rex* inspiration for the character of Alan Grant in the Jurassic Park movies, insists T. Rex was a scavenger, feeding off carcasses like a vulture instead of hunting and killing its own prey. The dinosaur's massive size would be a disadvantage while hunting, Horner believes, pointing out that T. Rex "couldn't run, walk or fall from that dinosaur, it has no hands to catch its food."

As a scavenger, though, it would be a boss, snarling off smaller predators so it could feed on their kill. And T. Rex had bone-crushing teeth, Horner says, not tearing teeth like a velociraptor.

Horner admits he's a "lover" in his view. Other experts think so, too. "There's no reason to believe T. Rex was not a predator," Brusatte says, adding that as strong bone forces, bone-crushing vision (which provides depth perception) and keen sense of smell all

suit a 10-m-long T. Rex, as noted, lodged in the jawbone of another. (Dino skeletons have only been discovered in one place, he says, and *Albertosaurus* from Mongolia.) The new find doesn't fully clarify whether tyrannosaurs were scavengers or not, but suggests one thing might have killed the other, or gorged on the status after it was already dead. "Even so," if they're better thought to go up against a number of their own species, T. Rex didn't die by going to be caught from a young dinosaur," he says.

As if that weren't enough, a final T. Rex shackle emerged in September. Six, the world's most famous dinosaur, wasn't killed in a vicious dinosaur brawl, as was previously



WELL discovered the first known evidence of tyrannosaur cannibalism, a tooth from a tyrannosaur lodged in another tyrannosaur's jaw.

T. REX'S TOP SPEED HAS BEEN PEGGED AT 29 KM/H, A BIT FASTER THAN A HUMAN BUT SLOWER THAN AN EMU

suggested otherwise. "There's no analogue today of a five-ton collector of dead carcasses," he says. Adds *Sereno*, "I don't think [T. Rex], in the largest meat eater there, was walking around for something to eat over." Horner stands by his opinion. Other paleontologists "swear T. Rex is to be regarded," he says. "They think it's cooler."

The debate on T. Rex's eating habits was far from complicated recently when the University of Alberta's research Philip Bell announced he'd discovered the first known evidence of tyrannosaur cannibalism: the tooth of one Gorgo-

lithed. It seems the tyrannosaur was a lovely person. The most complete T. Rex skeleton in the world, Sue, has a series of holes in her jaw once thought to be but she says experts have concluded they were probably caused by an infection instead. But that might have been the least of her worries. "She had all sorts of problems," including arthritis, a sore infection in her leg, and a shoulder injury, says Bill Sereno of the Field Museum in Chicago, whose Sue is on display. At 25 years old, she's the world's oldest known T. Rex, and "that's what happens when we get older," he says.

And so, *Bates* says, "it's not a bad thing to be old." Whether it can run down a Jeep or not, T. Rex will always be king. ■

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SHARKSKIN HELPS KEEP BATHROOMS CLEAN

Are sharks the real bosses of the deep? *Bates*, *Adams* and other sea creatures have been rethinking life on land to smooth white skin, but when they try to stick to fish, *Bates* found in *Field* magazine studies that they're limited. They simply wash away. It's *Sharklet* firm *Sharklet Technologies* has pinned the sharkskin pattern on an adhesive film. It will repel bacteria and pathogens, they say, helping keep hospitals and bathrooms clean and germ-free.

THE ONLY GOOD XMAS PRESENT

An economist explains why you shouldn't buy gifts

BY CATHY NIXON • Joel Waldfogel doesn't think we should bother buying Christmas presents. Not because the actual ritual creates crises or religious occasions argue against the very spirit of the holidays. Rather, the economist says gifts are just giving because most of the time we're just giving to us—and that makes no sense. "The only reason we buy gifts is to feel like we're giving to someone else," he says. "It's just a way to feel like we're giving to someone else."

The reason, according to Waldfogel's new book, *Scrooged: Why You Shouldn't Buy Presents for the Holidays*, is because no one knows our own likes, dislikes and needs as well as we do. Given are almost guaranteed to fail at finding that perfect present. At Christmas, this affliction is compounded by the throng of people we're obliged to buy for—loves, neighbors, the neighbor and the neighbor's dog, too. The result is what Waldfogel calls the "red tide," referring to the alpha-give. "It's just like stuff up and down randomly dropping under our nose," he says. "It's just like stuff up and down randomly dropping under our nose."

Waldfogel's book isn't just another anti-consumer rant. It's an economic analysis that puts kind members to the case against bad gifts. He suggests we'd never buy things for ourselves because we don't need them. According to his research, called "consumer surplus," most Waldfogel, we only purchase things for ourselves that we consider to be worth more than the actual price. But gives have no way of judging how much we would pay for a gift compared to how much they took out for it. "So you can end up with something that you don't value at all," says Waldfogel, who is a business professor at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

For more than a decade, Waldfogel has conducted surveys comparing the actual price of a gift to how much a recipient would pay for it, and how much we value gifts versus our own purchases. He's found a stunning 18 to 20 percent difference. In other words, no one would have purchased you paid that much for those shoppers to that. Waldfogel gives three. In effect, the maximum gift given is a pencil, when a pencil costs about one-third of its worth. Waldfogel refers to this as the "dead weight loss" but "it's just really means

a waste," he says. In Canada, \$565 million of the \$1.4 billion spent on Christmas is dead weight loss. In the States, it's about \$514 billion, and for all OECD countries, the loss is a huge \$1.615 billion.

Things is, we're not all equally responsible for the consumer waste. Among the worst gift givers? Aunts and uncles, and grandparents. Waldfogel's research has shown that their presents produced 84 and 75 cents, respectively, in present satisfaction per dollar spent. A European survey revealed that



AMONG THE WORST GIFT-GIVERS? AUNTS, UNCLES AND GRANDPARENTS.

"In-laws were just terrible," too, he says. That's because of "infrquent contact and low level of knowledge of the kinds of things the recipients would like," says Waldfogel. Conversely, the most successful givers are the people who know us most intimately: parents. Their presents produce 97 cents of satisfaction per dollar spent, compared to friends (81 cents) and siblings (79 cents). Who is best? Romantic partners, who avoid waste altogether by generating 100 cents of satisfaction for every dollar spent on a gift.

Waldfogel even discusses the time cost of finding presents. In December 2007, American women and men spent 84 minutes and 35 minutes a day shopping, respectively, compared to 45 and 38 minutes in other months. He says it's unclear how to value this time cost. If you like the result, then there's none. If not, he writes, "then it's a cost and should be added to other elements of the cost of Christmas."

Waldfogel also can't quantify the impact that recipients have on gifts when they pretend to like a subpar present, but it sure doesn't help. Being polite "helps perpetuate the wastefulness of Christmas gifts," he writes. "Waldfogel's reaction to bad presents? 'Hence, you don't have to get me any thing.' Translation: no really, don't."

By the end of his book, Waldfogel concludes that shopping presents is impossible in our society today. But he believes that there are ways to do it that "don't destroy so much value," he says. "I'm not going to plunder the planet in celebration of the holidays, we should at least do it efficiently." Where it's quite allowed, give cash. That way recipients will get the most value out of your money. Older people pull this off with young recipients, says Waldfogel. But most of us feel an "obligation" about handing a good or subpar gift cards, which are among the most requested presents. But that isn't perfect either because they're easy to lose and seem often wind up with a small balance on the card (after not quite using up all the credit) that resists pocket. Another option: charitable donations given in the name of recipients, or charity gift cards, so they can choose a good cause. Waldfogel says most people say they'd donate if they had more money.

But what to get an consumer who who cares no more presents? "The most effect of all this research over the years has been to make people realize that giving gifts is just the best present of all."



INDIA: THE VILLAGE WITHOUT DOORS

There are no locks or doors in Shani Shikhar, a small village in Maharashtra, India. The residents say they have no need for security, because a temple devoted to Shani Dev (the Hindu god of fear) is built there and their belongings, too. There hasn't been a theft in the town since the shrine was set up about 150 years ago, they say. There must be something to the myth—about 33,000 people visit the holy place every day.



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WORKING IT OUT at Simon Fraser for the second year in a row, the Burnaby, B.C., school ranks No. 1 in the Comprehensive category

OUR 19TH ANNUAL
RANKINGS

Schools in Quebec, British Columbia and New Brunswick top Maclean's evaluation of university excellence BY MARY DWYER

WITH THIS YEAR'S rankings, Maclean's continues the tradition it established in 1991 to provide essential information in a comprehensive package to help students choose the university that best suits their needs. The annual rankings assess Canadian universities on a diverse range of factors, from spending on student services, scholarships and bursaries, to student faculty ratios and faculty access in obtaining national research grants. Maclean's surveys universities with a focus on the undergraduate experience, and an intent to offer an overview of the quality of instruction and services available to students at public universities across the country.

Maclean's places universities in one of three categories, recognizing the differences in types of universities, levels of research funding, the diversity of offerings, and the range of graduate and professional programs. Primarily undergraduate universities, in the sense that 50 per cent or more of their students are in undergraduate programs, are largely focused on undergraduate

education, with relatively few graduate programs. Those in the Comprehensive category have a significant degree of research activity and a wide range of programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including professional degrees. Medical Doctoral universities offer a broad range of Ph.D. programs and research, as well, all universities in this category have medical schools, which sets them apart in terms of the size of research grants.

In each category, Maclean's ranks the universities on performance indicators in 10 broad areas, allocating a weight to each indicator. Primarily Undergraduate and Comprehensive universities are ranked on 15 performance measures. Medical Doctoral universities are ranked on 14 figures include data from all federal and affiliated institutions. The magazine does not rank schools with fewer than 3,000 full-time students, those that are reserved due to a religious or specialized mission, newly designated

universities or those that are not members of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). For the fifth year in a row, McGill has taken the top spot in the Medical Doctoral category. On a per capita basis, McGill's faculty positions strongly in winning awards and research grants. A first place fashion brand awards and the reputational survey boosted the school's overall score.

In the Comprehensive category, Simon Fraser finished first for the second year in a row. Once again, an outstanding showing in winning student and faculty awards, as well as research grants, contributed to a top-notch score. In addition, SFU scored highly on library spending, particularly in spending on acquisitions.



FROM THE TOP: Queen's (above), McGill (opposite, above) and U of T (opposite, below) are the highest-ranked Medical Doctoral schools

of their peers at other institutions, and the faculty follow data by faculty, ranking it second on the overall index. Placing well on operating budget expenditures per student, spending on the library, number of library volumes per student and the reputation

survey all contributed to a winning score.

This year, a new category was added in the Faculty Undergraduate category: The University of Ontario Institute of Technology, founded in 1997 in Oshawa, made a strong debut, placing 13th out of 22 medical schools.

Strength in research funding—UOIT placed first in obtaining social sciences and humanities grants and fourth in medical/science grants—as well as a first place finish on funding state-of-the-art services and library acquisitions contributed to a strong score.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL LEVINE

THE RANKING PROCESS begins in the spring when Maclean's sends thousands of reputational surveys to university officials, high school principals and graduate coordinators, heads of corporations, CEOs and corporate managers across the country, soliciting their views on quality and innovation at Canadian universities. During the course of the summer, Maclean's collects information on dozens of students and faculty awards from 45 administering agencies.

The rankings are based on the most recent and publicly available data. Statistics Canada provides student and faculty numbers, as well as data for total research income and all five financial indicators—operating budget, spending on student services, scholarships and bursaries, library expenses and acquisitions. For the social sciences and humanities research grants indicator and the medical/science research grants indicator, we use the annual research grants received in 2003-2004 directly from the three major federal granting agencies: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The Canadian Association of Research Libraries provides figures used for the library holdings indicator. Financial and library figures are for fiscal 2002-03; student and faculty numbers are for 2002 and 2003, respectively.

Beginning on page 138, you will find charts breaking out all the data for every performance measure used in the rankings—from funding for scholarships and bursaries to the number of awards won by students and



Medical Doctoral ranking

The Maclean's ranking takes a measure of the undergraduate experience, comparing universities in three peer groupings. These in the Medical Doctoral category have a broad range of Ph.D. programs and research, as well as medical schools.

OVERALL RANKING		STUDENT & CLASSES			FACULTY		SERVICES		STUDENT SUPPORT			LIBRARY		REPUTATION		
	LAST YEAR	STUDENT AVERAGE	STUDENT SATISFACTION RATIO	AVERAGE PER FULL-TIME FACULTY	SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES GRANTS	MEDICAL/SCIENCE GRANTS	TOTAL RESEARCH DOLLARS	SPENDING BUDGET	GRANTS & BURSARIES (% OF BUDGET)	STUDENT SERVICES (% OF BUDGET)	REFERENCES	ACQUISITIONS	HOLDINGS PER STUDENT	TOTAL HOLDINGS	REPUTATIONAL SURVEY	
1	McGill	(7)	1	3	2	1	3	4	9	3	12	3	10*	8	7	1
2	Toronto	(2*)	8	14	3	2	1	1	15	4	9	1	80*	5	1	3
3	Queen's	(2*)	2	11	1	9	4	6	1	2	11	10	4	1	4	6
4	UBC	(8)	3	4	4	3	6	8	10	10	10	15	2	4	3	4
5	Alberta	(6)	4*	12	5	7	5	2	4	7	13	5	13	2	2	2
6	McMaster	(9)	4*	8	7	8	10	3	8	3	8*	11*	6*	13	13	5
7	Calgary	(7)	4*	2	11	13	11	12	2	11	1	7	8	6	5	12
8	Dalhousie	(3)	4	1	9	12	13	14	5	4	7*	11*	9	9	14	10
9	Ottawa	(10*)	5*	15	6	5	2	7	12	1	4	8*	1	10	13	14
10	Saskatchewan	(9)	16	3	13	16	14	10	3	13	10	4	12	3	8	8
11	Western	(12*)	12	10	10	10	9	11	5	5	5*	13	3	7	5	7
12	Leeds	(12)	9*	9	12	4	8	9	14	9	7*	6	6*	11*	11	11
13	Montréal	(13)	11	13	8	6	7	5	13	12	14	8*	15	15	9	13
14	Sherbrooke	(14)	13	6	15	14	15	15	15	15	2	15	5	14	15	9
15	Montréal	(15)	16	7	14	11	12	13	7	14	3	2	14	11*	12	15

*Tied for rank



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: A Mix of 3D, Vanessa del Grande (opposite, in red) using e-learning technology developed at Victoria

lively. On page 155, you will find a display table of additional data, such as entering grade averages and graduation rates—valuations that not all universities are willing to make public. Maclean's obtains the figures in this section directly from universities or from university websites—wherever the data are available and comparable—as well as from Canadian University Data Ontario (CUDO), an initiative of the Council

of Ontario Universities.

Maclean's weighs the rankings as follows:

STUDENTS/CLASSES (26 per cent of final score) Maclean's relies data on the success of the student body at winning national academic awards (awarded to per cent) over the previous five years. The factors 40 fellowship and prize programs, encompassing more than 17,000 individual awards

from 2004 through 2008. The awards include such prestigious awards as the Rhodes scholarships and the Fulbright awards, as well as scholarships from professional associations and the three federal granting agencies. Each university's total of student awards is divided by its number of full-time students, yielding a score of awards relative to each institution's size.

To gauge students' access to professors,



Maclean's also measures the number of full-time-equivalent students per full-time faculty member (30 per cent). The student/faculty ratio includes all students, graduate as well as undergraduates.

reported by how many are awarded to the primary investigator on a project. Social sciences and humanities grants (six per cent) and medical/science grants (six per cent) are ranked in separate indicators.

FACULTY (18 per cent) In assessing the quality of faculty, Maclean's calculates the number of full-time faculty members on the past five years who won major national awards, including the distinguished Killam, Mitlen and Seneca prizes, the Royal Society of Canada awards, the 138 Fellowship and nearly 40 other award programs covering a total of 121 individual awards (six per cent). To scale for institution size, the award score for each university is divided by each school's number of full-time faculty.

In addition, the magazine measures the success of faculty in winning research grants from SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR. Maclean's takes into account both the number and the dollar value received in the previous year, and divides the totals by each university's full-time faculty count. Research grants are

RESOURCES (12 per cent) This section examines the amount of money available for current expenses per weighted full-time-equivalent student (six per cent). Students are weighted according to their level of study—bachelor's, master's or doctorate—and their program of study.

To broaden the scope of the second picture, Maclean's also measures total research dollars (six per cent). This figure, calculated relative to the size of each institution's full-time faculty, includes income from sponsored research, such as grants and contracts, federal, provincial and foreign government funding, and funding from non-governmental organizations.

STUDENT SUPPORT (13 per cent) To evaluate the resources available to students,

Weightings of Indicators

Maclean's ranks universities on 13 or 14 performance measures, according to peer grouping, and then allocates the appropriate weights to those measures.

STUDENTS/CLASSES	26%
Student Awards	10%
Student/Faculty Ratio	10%
FACULTY	18%
Awards per Full-time Faculty	6%
Social Sciences and Humanities Grants	6%
Medical/Science Grants	6%
RESOURCES	12%
Total Research Dollars	6%
Operating Budget	6%
STUDENT SUPPORT	13%
Scholarships & Bursaries	6.5%
Student Services	6.5%
LIBRARY	15%
Expenditures	8%
Acquisitions	5%
Holdings per Student	4% to 5%
Total Library Holdings	1%
REPUTATION	22%
Reputational Survey	22%
Medical/Science Surveys	

Maclean's examines the percentage of the budget spent on student services (6.5 per cent) as well as scholarships and bursaries (6.5 per cent). Expenditures are measured as they are reported to the Canadian Association of University Business Officers.

LIBRARY (15 per cent) This section measures the breadth and currency of the collection. Universities receive points for the number of volumes and volume growth (five per cent of full-time equivalent students) (five per cent for Primarily Undergraduate and Comprehensive, four per cent

Comprehensive ranking

The Maclean's ranking takes a measure of the undergraduate experience, comparing universities in three peer groupings. Those in the Comprehensive category have a significant amount of research activity and a wide range of programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including professional degrees.

OVERALL RANKING		STUDENTS & CLASSES			FACULTY		RESOURCES		STUDENT SUPPORT		LIBRARY		REPUTATION		
	LAST YEAR	STUDENT AWARD	STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO	AWARDS PER FULL-TIME FACULTY	SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES GRANTS	MEDICAL/SCIENCE GRANTS	TOTAL RESEARCH DOLLARS	OPERATING BUDGET	SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES (% OF BUDGET)	STUDENT SERVICES (% OF BUDGET)	EXPENSES	ACQUISITIONS	HOLDINGS PER STUDENT	REPUTATIONAL SURVEY	
1	Simon Fraser	(1*)	3	5	1	3	1	5	2	7	3	2	1	8	3
2	Victoria	(1*)	4*	3	3	5	2	2	4	3	5	4	2	4	4
3	Waterloo	(3)	1	8	2	1	3	3	11	1	9*	10	6	11	1
4	Guelph	(4)	6	9	6*	4	6	1	8	6	4	11	3	7	2
5	Memorial	(5*)	2	2	8	10	11	7	1	9	9*	3	10	2	5
6	New Brunswick	(5*)	3	1	8*	8	10	4	6	11	2	1	7	1	8
7	Carleton	(7)	4*	7	5	8	4	4	10	2	6	5	9	9	9
8	Windsor	(8)	10	6	9	9	5	8	3	8	2	7	4	3	15
9	Regina	(5*)	11	4	11	11	9	9	5	5	11	6	8	5	7
10	York	(3*)	8	11	4	7	7	10	7	4	1	9	5	10	12
11	Concordia	(11)	9	10	10	3	8	11	9	10	8	11	4	6	6

for Medical Doctoral). The real holdings measurement is used in the Medical Doctoral category (one per cent), acknowledging the importance of extensive on-campus collections in those universities.

As well, Macdon's measures the percentage of a university's operating budget allocated to library services (five per cent) and the percentage of the library budget spent on acquiring the collections (five per cent). In acknowledging a shift from the traditional library model—books on shelves—to an electronic access model, Macdon's captures spending on electronic resources in both the library expenses and acquisitions expenditures.

REPUTATION (22 per cent) This section reflects a university's reputation in the community at large. For the reputational survey, Macdon's solicits the views of university officials at each ranked institution, high school principals and graduate counselors from every province and territory, the heads of a wide variety of national and regional associations, and CEOs and executives at corporations large and small. Representatives rated the universities in their respective



HANDS ON: Taking part on campus at UNBC, Mount Allison students in the field (opposite)

Highest Quality, Most Innovative, and Leadership of Tomorrow. Best Overall represents the sum of the scores.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Starting on page 156, you will find more and

more that used to be part of Macdon's ranking calculations. These measures were dropped from the calculations in 2007 after some universities declined to disclose such information as retention rates and average entering grade. Still, for those universities that have made



this data public, Macdon's publishes those numbers to provide students with the widest range of information possible.

As a measure of student quality, Macdon's presents incoming students' average high school grades. The figures are for full-time students attending university in their home province. No conversion formula is applied to incoming grade averages to allow for provincial differences or varying admission policies, to enhance accessibility, accept students with lower grades. To provide a more detailed

picture of grade averages, Macdon's displays grades divided into six grade ranges, extending from less than 70 per cent to 95 per cent and higher.

As a measure of driving power, Macdon's counts the proportion of out-of-province students attending university in their first year undergraduate class, as well as the percentage of international graduate students in schools in the Medical Doctoral and Commerce categories.

In calculating retention rates, Macdon's adds the percentage of full-time, first-year students who return in second year. While many factors can affect a student's choice

not to return—personal considerations, or a decision to transfer to a program unavailable at their home university—student retention, on the whole, reflects a university's success in keeping its students on course.

Macdon's also measures graduation rates by tracking an incoming cohort of full-time, first-year undergraduate students to determine if they received a degree within seven years. The graduation numbers include students in three-year programs, as well as those in such second-entry programs as medicine, law and education—programs that have a highly selective admissions process. As such, the number of these programs in any given university can affect the overall graduation rate.

In assessing faculty, Macdon's counts the percentage of full-time instructional faculty members who have a Ph.D., a first professional degree or a terminal degree in their field.

Finally, in taking a look at the classroom experience, Macdon's presents figures on average undergraduate class sizes in the first- and second-year level, as well as at the third- and fourth-year level. ■

PEER-REVIEWED Customise your own ranking using the Peer-Reviewed University Survey Tool. Go to www.mcdonalds.ca/university and click "Surveys." Choose your own weights and locations from our exclusive database.

Primarily Undergraduate ranking

The Macdon's ranking takes a measure of the undergraduate experience, comparing universities in three peer groupings. Those in the Primarily Undergraduate category are largely focused on undergraduate education, with relatively few graduate programs.

OVERALL RANKINGS		STUDENTS & CLASSES			FACULTY		RESOURCES		STUDENT SUPPORT		LIBRARY		REPUTATION	
	LAST YEAR	STUDENT ADMISSION	STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO	ANNUED PER FULL-TIME FACULTY	SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES GRANTS	MEDICAL/SCIENCE GRANTS	TOTAL RESEARCH DOLLARS	OPERATING BUDGET	SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES (% OF BUDGET)	STUDENT SERVICES (% OF BUDGET)	EXPENSES	ACQUISITIONS	HELDINGS PER STUDENT	REPUTATIONAL SURVEY
1	Mount Allison	(1)	3	2*	38	8	15	4	7*	15	2	20	2	4
2	Acadia	(3)	2	4	9	35	11	3	7*	8	52	6		5
3	UNBC	(2)	3	8	2*	4	7	1	7	17	14	4	5	19
4	St. Francis Xavier	(4)	8	3	11	12	17	6	15	9*	13	9	6	14
5	Wilfrid Laurier	(5)	1*	10	4	6	3	19	19	4	6	10*	13	3
6	Lethbridge	(7*)	10*	10	7	15	2	6	5	14*	17*	11*	34	10
7	Trinity	(8)	6*	17	5	10	1	3	12	1	7	15*	19	15
8	UPR	(7*)	4	6	19	11	18	2	6	12	21*	18*	17	8
9	St. Mary's	(12)	5	19	6	3	6	9	16	9*	6	11*	18	12
10	Windsor	(9)	6*	13*	19*	7	10	17	10	16	3	11*	7	20
11	Bishop's	(11*)	10*	7	10	22	16	21	2	19	11*	1	2	7
12	UOIT	(14/10)	28	22	19*	1	4	5	9	22	1	21*	1	22
13	Brandon	(11*)	12*	1	12	14	19	13	1	21	5	3	21	1
14	Brock	(14)	19*	16	13	9	6	16	20	5*	4	18*	15	10
15	Lakehead	(11*)	9	15	16	2	9	4	14	2	21*	10	3	9
16	St. Thomas	(19)	22	12	8	17	N/A	22	21	3	2	5	9	4
17	Ryerson	(13)	21	20	18	8	13	12	13	14*	20	21*	8	21
18	Sacred Heart	(17*)	14	9	14	20	12	7	3	5*	13*	15*	11	17
19	Moncton	(15*)	2	17	13	20	14	11	13	16	7	4	3	20
20	Mount Saint Vincent	(15*)	15*	11	5	5	21	18	17	14*	19	14	13	8
21	Cape Breton	(21)	19	13*	19*	21	16	10	22	20	9*	20	16	22
22	Nipissing	(20)	18	21	19*	19	14	20	16	11	9*	17	22	17

THE UC WAY

Could California be a model for Canadian research policy?

BY PETER BRADY TAYLOR • For all the emulations and scholarship that pour on at Canadian campuses, whether in what really drives most colleges and universities, Cal legs want to be itself universities. Small universities want to be big universities. And big universities want to be Harvard.

Evidence of this aspiration is everywhere. In Alberta, a pair of community colleges just became universities. The same thing happened last year in British Columbia. In Ontario, Brock University in St. Catharines has been declared an aggressive marketing campaign to attract students from small regional university to higher-status research ones. And then there's the recent force created by the suspension of five of Canada's biggest universities.

In an exclusive interview with MacEwan in August, the presidents of the University of British Columbia, University of Alberta, University of Toronto, McGill University and Université de Montréal outlined a controversial proposal to realign national post-secondary funding. Under the Big Five plan, a few schools would emphasize high-level research while the remaining schools would focus primarily on undergraduate education. That would allow a more efficient distribution of scarce research funding, rank the Big Five closer to their international peers, and address the issue of Canada's underperformance in producing world-class university research.

It's clearly an ambitious plan, as far as the Big Five are concerned. But is leaving the education of every other college and university the best plan for Canada? And what would such a plan look like?

You have to look elsewhere for an example. In the U.S., many states set out explicit expectations for all public post-secondary institutions, and California's Master Plan for Higher Education, created in 1960, is one of the best known.

At the top of the state hierarchy is the University of California, which boasts many of the world's most famous campuses, including Berkeley and UCLA. Its main functions receive the bulk of research funding, focus heavily on graduate students, and are the only public universities in California allowed to grant Ph.D.s. UC accepts the top 12 per cent of all state high school graduates. Next



CANADA'S 'BIG FIVE' UNIVERSITIES WANT A REALIGNMENT OF POST-SECONDARY FUNDING



come 13 California State campuses. Cal State is primarily an undergraduate institutions. Professors teach once in a while classes to their peers at UC and do much less research. The top third of California high school graduates are guaranteed a place in the Cal State system. Finally, more than two state community colleges exist in Northern Cal State. They are required to offer a spot for every high school graduate in California. "The two key aspects of the master plan are a clear delineation of what students go where, as well as which schools do what," says Todd Grossman, director of academic planning at the University of California office of the president. "Everyone knows their place."

What would a Canadian version of California's master plan look like? The larger universities would become research intensive UCs, and the rest would fill the role of Cal State

NANOTECHNOLOGY students at Waterloo (above), Toronto (left) for universities, research has become a status symbol

Colleges would serve colleges. Such a plan, in which everyone knew their place, would likely satisfy the most complacent of the Big Five regarding research. Look, for instance, at the percentage of graduate students on campus, which is frequently seen as a measure of a university's research intensity. The University of Alberta student body has 18 per cent grad students, at the University of Toronto, it's 21 per cent. By comparison, Berkeley has 38 per cent and UCLA 31 per cent (Harvard has 61 per cent graduate students).

The problem for most other Canadian universities problems, however, is that no Cal State school has ever moved campus into the system was put in place. And even then of adopting the rigidity of California's system, any plan that funnels research dollars and graduate students toward a few universities will inevitably first spread inequality, since new research in the primary system by which schools seek to increase status. Larger research budgets allow schools to attract higher profile faculty and better students, and to improve their reputations among peer schools.

"Research is a luxury for academics to retire their flag," says George Y. Brown, the newly elected president of the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George. Last year, UNBC was ranked second to research at small universities in Canada, and Brown sees this as a key selling point for his not-wholly school. "You can't maintain innovation," he warns. "Research can happen anywhere."

The current system, in which all schools compete amongst themselves for research and students, has the obvious merit of encouraging innovation wherever it may occur, avoiding the pitfalls of a centrally planned system. Nonetheless, as more and more schools attempt to move up the ladder on prestige, they inevitably seek a bigger slice of the 13 billion Dollars spread annually on university research. And, as the Big Five come plans, they may not be enough to go around now as it is. This allocation problem is something California avoids.

It might be that the only real solution, beyond drastically increasing government funding, is to foster a greater appreciation for excellence in non-research research.

David Marshall is president of Calgary's Mount Royal University, known until September as Mount Royal College. Perhaps unique among university presidents, Marshall has no qualms with the Big Five plan. "We need world class universities in Canada and I support them having more resources to do what they do best," he says. Marshall is content for his school to fulfill the Cal State function. "We don't want to be another University of Alberta," he says, putting his addition in check. "We want to provide a

world class teaching experience" he figures the desire of larger universities to focus on research leaves a substantial niche for his school.

Surveys such as those in MacEwan's annual student issue ("Students praise their universities," Feb. 19, 2009) back up Marshall's contention that undergraduate students in smaller schools report a more rewarding experience. If more schools pursued this sort of differentiation on their own, there would be no call to reduce research funding to larger schools. For each

school to cash on its laurels, good teaching would have to meet the same sort of pressure as good research.

Universities in Canada already satisfied with simply pursuing teaching excellence. Research funding, and the higher status it entails, remains a strong aspiration. For most schools in Canada, where the university awards funding grants will replace more participation in the classroom and less aspiration in the lab. ■



MACEWAN

In 2006, Sarah graduated from MacEwan with her Bachelor of Arts degree – she attributes her success to the dedication, relationships and research opportunities provided by faculty.

"I cannot say enough about the faculty at MacEwan. Their genuine passion for academia has inspired me to contribute to the ever-growing field of psychology."

During her four years at MacEwan, Sarah participated in research projects, presented papers at international conferences and prepared a manuscript for submission – opportunities that may not have been possible at many other institutions.

"Their passion for academia is inspiring . . ."

Grant MacEwan University is proud to have played a part in developing her passion for learning.

This fall, Sarah began her Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

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SARTING UP: These days, neuroscience, ideas like it under attack—"we'll see what kind of shape mine is in after a month of university"

THE FIRST 30

Our on-the-ground undergrad reports on his debut month PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW TOLSON

BY NOAH MAZREKIN—I consider myself something of an idiot. I'm consciously conscious of the many problems in the world and of the effects my actions have on the planet and its inhabitants, and I try to act accordingly. Of course, I hope others will do the same, and perhaps I too easily apply my values when judging the actions and beliefs of other people, governments, corporations, etc. My idealism has also caused me separate reminders from therapists and family to "take yourself less seriously."

I've just begun my first year at the University of Toronto, and I'm aware that this is a time when values and personalities can be challenged, shifted and eventually—perhaps selfishly—solidified. People tend to progress, maybe unconsciously, from idealism to pragmatism as they mature. Idealism becomes a sort of nostalgia; you remember "the good old days," but are resigned to the fact that those days are deadened by the past.

But shift in myself. The more I learn, the more complex things become. The more I realize the barriers that lie in the way of the more equitable, sustainable, logical world I envision, the less likely it seems that my idealism stands a chance.

Wasn't idealism in Canada here because veritable degree-churning machines? A bachelor's degree today is yesterday's high school diploma. So another Chance graduate each year into an already saturated global job market. A desire to do good is often dismissed as naive or met with skepticism. All in all, there doesn't seem to be much room left for idealism.

We'll see what kind of shape mine is in after a month of university.

TOUCHDOWN

Aug. 30 If you're moving to a new city for university, it's a good idea to arrive a few days before school starts so you can have a chance to explore the area around your new home.

Once the crunch of Fresh Week begins, followed immediately by your first classes, you're not likely to venture far off campus, so familiarizing yourself with the neighborhood can give you a head start on breaking the bubble that often develops in first year.

For me, coming from Vancouver, it gave me a chance to spend time with friends and family who already lived in Toronto and knew the city well. One of them took me to a drum circle, the likes of which I had never seen; hundreds of people gathered in a park in the middle of downtown Toronto, dancing to a beat you could hear from blocks away. It gave me a taste of the enormous variety of things to do and see in this city, and I wouldn't have had the chance to do such things had I come straight to school.

THROUGH THE HARBOR HOLE

Sept. 1 Today was mine in July. After the initial "hooked back"—standing around for two hours meeting your fellow first-years and hearing the same questions over and over ("What's your major?" "Where are you from?"), it was time to learn the regular

I'D WIN A NOBEL PRIZE.

I WOULD DISCOVER A NEW PLANET.

DEFINITELY PLAY A STEINWAY.



SOCIALIZED The social questions come and come—What's your major? Where are you from?

school cheers, glorifying ourselves and putting down everyone else. It's unusual how people always feel this need to distinguish themselves within a group, even as they dismiss it as just a fun tradition.

The ruins of the college (U of T is divided into seven undergraduate colleges; I'm at Trinity) hint at what life in residence will look like. And it looks a bit like a café. At any rate, it's certainly an alternate version of reality. When hundreds of 18-year-olds move away from home, to a strange city, with strange people and strange customs, equally strange social dynamics are bound to develop. The aforementioned bubble begins to surround the campus and the few blocks surrounding it. With such an insolation of new people, experiences and, yes, work, doesn't it make much sense, in some ways, to explore beyond the bubble—ones when you're at the heart of a great city like Toronto?

I also saw my roommate's move-in day as another otherworldly experience, meeting a stranger with whom you'll be living for a year. In my case, he's much older than I, which makes things even more unusual. Using a roommate really tests your maturity and your ability to relate to someone different from you. In your first year of university, maturity is often hard to come by, so the challenge of living with someone can provide a reality check, helping to balance out the naivety.

THE END OF THE BEGINNING

Sept. 9: The whirlwind that is Fresh Week (officially called Orientation Week, First Week, etc.) is now officially over. It was certainly interesting, meeting dozens of people every day, paying every night till at least 3 a.m. (Or sometimes 6 a.m.)

Initial awkwardness gradually warmed to

total familiarity, and was even heated to brief, intense enthusiasm on those rare occasions when the drinks began to flow—responsibly and moderately, of course. Other than the incoherent socializing, I signed up for about 10 different clubs, from debate to lacrosse and soccer, learned the register school cheers, and attended numerous orientations and events. The week is a great opportunity to meet people and to relax and have fun before classes start.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END?

Sept. 24: My schedule is certainly being deluged, if not completely mired. Other than excessive drinking, university compares to my very cordial but philosophical discussions (a strange combination, I know). I've been finding myself in a lot of these lately.

Discussions concerning the nature of universes lead me to believe it doesn't exist but that it doesn't matter anyway. Environmental arguments for limits to growth are managed by the technology with its exponential stance, supported by pointing to how far our technology has progressed even in the past 100 years, allowing us to use resources more efficiently than ever assigned in the early 19th century. Adverse to narrow the gap between rich and poor is challenged by a conviction that there will always be extreme poverty in a capitalist system, and that our goal should be simply to raise the standard of living for everyone as a whole.

Another challenge to this optimistic desire for equal resources comes in the simple fact that if everyone lived as we did in Canada, we would need four planets! And considering the fact that even my introductory economics textbook states that artificial aids are not sustained almost exclusively by self-interest, it doesn't seem likely that we will be going any



FITTING IN The weekend is overabundant—active pursuit of my ideals has taken a back seat, along with just about everything else in life

thing up in the name of indifference.

In light of these arguments, my schedule has gained more, perhaps more realistic content, as I begin the formal study of society in earnest.

CAUGHT UP IN THE KNOWLEDGE PROJECT

Sept. 30: With mid-term time approaching, the weekend is becoming over-whelming. With so much time and energy devoted to studying, active pursuit of my ideals has taken a back seat, along with pretty much everything else in life.

Continued logical challenges to my idealism don't help either. In my global government class, we've been discussing the idea of a single government that would legislate and enforce laws for the entire world, and would therefore be much better than we are now at dealing with global problems like climate change or terrorism. But, for many practical reasons, the idea is considered overly idealistic and unrealistic. It seems that logic alone is inadequate to parity of nations.

One of the premises of my childhood and teenage science class, one of the great things about a big school like U of T is that you can study pretty much anything you want! It is that while the Western world has developed every successful "Knowledge Project"—institutionalizing the pursuit and preservation of knowledge in universities—we lack an equivalent "Wisdom Project." "Knowledge," my professor reminded us, "is good for overcoming ignorance, but wisdom is necessary for overcoming foolishness, and they're not at all the same thing."

It struck me that perhaps logical justification of idealism isn't as important as my over-idealized mind would have me believe. Yes, there are many practical bar-



riers in the way of a better world, but I don't think that should stop us from trying. So for now, I think I'll spend the coming weeks, jaded (I'm still not really off kate) with one last quote popularized by the overuse, if not always wisely, Kanye West:

"Shout for the weak. Even if you shout, you'll land among the stars." ■

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No magic, but a great preview. Albert Einstein and Mark Twain both play to teach in Harry Potter films.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A

TEACHER

You can be a role model for hundreds of kids—if you have what it takes **BY ROBERT NEAR**

▶ WHAT YOU'LL DO

Keeping class in line is only the tip of the iceberg. Teachers spend a great deal of time preparing lesson plans, marking tests, talking to parents, organizing extracurricular activities and enhancing their professional and technological skills. Their day often starts hours before the morning bell and doesn't finish until well after the kids stream home. It will all be worth it, though, when you make a difference in the lives of your students (Win/win!)

▶ IS IT FOR YOU?

Great teachers are great for different reasons. They can be as diverse as their students. Body types that most teachers share include being organized, flexible, nurturing and self-starting. You should also be passionate about education. You'll be a role model for hundreds of young kids, your desire and motivation to teach will help you go beyond your duty and become an exemplary influence in their lives.

▶ WHAT YOU NEED TO GET IN

Though admission requirements for education programs vary, there are two main criteria: grades (mid-70s and up) and experience working with kids (get as much of it as you can and keep records for a portfolio). Education is a popular program and competition to get in can be tough. Beyond your initial degree, teachers emphasize professional development, often setting concrete goals of improvement on an annual basis. You'll be teaching, and learning, in the classroom for the rest of your working years.

▶ SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER

There's no one school that's acknowledged to be the best. Your main criterion in choosing a school should be whether or not it offers the type of program you want. Only some schools offer such programs as technological education and Aboriginal education.

▶ WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

Canada varies widely, but generally, educa-

tion students take a blend of courses in the subject matter they'll be teaching ("Introduction to Chemistry") and courses in how to teach those subjects ("Curriculum Theory and Design"). They take this mix of courses either concurrently or consecutively. Either way, students will spend a lot of time in a classroom, learning from an experienced mentor.

▶ EXTRACURRICULAR STUFF THAT CAN HELP

It's very important that you get some experience working with children. There are a lot of opportunities out there: summer camp counselor, do whatever, Big Brothers or Big Sisters volunteer, after-school tutor and so on.

▶ JOB PROSPECTS

Many regions are facing an oversupply of new teachers, so the job market is competitive. That said, every region has a burgeoning need for certain types of teachers: in Ontario, French teachers get snapped up quickly; in Alberta, special-needs and ESL teachers are in demand. Check to see what your province or region needs before signing up for teachers college.

▶ HOW MUCH YOU'LL MAKE

Salaries depend on your education, your teaching and other career experience. Teachers start at the bottom of a salary grid, making as low as the mid-\$30,000s. As they gain more experience and education, they can make—compensations that grow over the course of the year rank. Other benefits can include a stable pension program and long summer vacations. ■

Things have a way of piling up.

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NO CAMPUS LIKE IT

Tough. Challenging. Rewarding. That's student life at the Royal Military College.

BY CAMERON AINSWORTH-VINGE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROGER LEMOYNE

At precisely 7:10 on a cool, damp morning in late October, cadets musters before the sun begins to assault you on overcast sky, the Parade Square on the campus of the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., is filled with about 1,500 cadets wearing camouflage uniforms. They are aligned in a giant U for emotion, and in the middle stands their cadet wing commander, 21-year-old Nicolas Boachard, a fourth-year chemical engineering student and army combat engineer. "It is throwing you a challenge," says Boachard with a smile. "Anyone who gets their first pay cut average at the end of the semester, or anyone who gets \$90 on the next PPE [Physical Performance Exam], will have an award created in your name." A bath falls over the cadets. "Correct me if I'm wrong," Boachard continues, "but I believe that's what Howard Crowe really meant in the movie *Gladiator* when he said, 'What you do with a sword is destiny.' The speech costs, but a buzz flies through the crowd. At RMC, cadets are used to big challenges, and this one is no exception.

Just getting into the college is difficult. Every year, the 19 Canadian Forces recruitment centers across the country receive as many as 1,500 applications for the Regular Officer Training Program (ROTP), only about 500 make it into the college. Applicants need at least a 70 per cent high school average, although most have an average greater than 80. And they must successfully complete a series of aptitude, interview and medical examinations. Being

well-rounded is also imperative. "A person who has a 90 per cent average but never had a part-time job, played a sport or had a hobby will really struggle here because they have never really tested," says Commodore William Thudove, RMC's commodore, who is the head of the institution.

Anyone who enrolls at the cad has better not expect a laid-back transition into university life. Before classes begin in the fall, all first-year cadets take part in their first cadet training exercise, a three-week boot camp. If you had from Ontario or the West, the training takes place at RMC; those from Quebec and the Maritimes travel to the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Que., which also serves as a pre-university school for Quebec students who want to complete their first year of CEGEP and then attend RMC. "The boot camp is a bit of a transition, to say the least, if you just came from sitting on your couch," notes Boachard, who was born in Saskatchewan. P.E.I.' It's like nothing you've ever experienced before."

Upon arrival, cadets have their hair cropped, their cellphones and computers taken away, and their civilian clothes exchanged for military fatigues. Each day brings intense physical training exercises and lectures designed to teach the basics of military life and the officer-like qualities needed to be an effective leader and commander. They are also introduced to an idea that could one day shatter, or even end, their lives: unlimited liability. "It means you agree to

"THE BOOT CAMP IS A BIT OF A TRANSITION, TO SAY THE LEAST, IF YOU JUST CAME FROM SITTING ON YOUR COUCH"



FIGHTING FORM: During a four-week orientation, RMC cadets get up at 6, exercise for an hour, eat, study, and then exercise some more

go off and serve your country at the risk of potentially losing your life, in some of our country's hot wars," says Bradley. "Over the next few years, and through their summer training and courses, you enroll in them that reality."

The Memorial Service, at the entrance of Currie Hall in RMC's Mackenzie Building, is a sobering reminder of that reality. Here you will find the pictures of 318 RMC grads who have died in the line of duty. The student's most recent entry, Matthew Dene, was killed in July 2007 when he was struck by a truck while on a mission in Kandahar City in Afghanistan. He died on the day of his son's second birthday.

Like all of his peers, Dene had a day may come when duty requires him to put himself in harm's way. Yet he is prepared, not scared. "At the college, we're in the business of getting trained and developing the qualities we need to be effective in the field and in combat," he says. "That is an inherently dangerous job. And in day-to-day activity, you need to keep that in the back of your mind, because it will be a reality."

ROOM CAMPUS: Just the beginning of a cadet's introduction to life at RMC. Some universities have a fresh week to new students into

their new settings and help them make a friend or two before beginning their studies. RMC has a four-week long First Year Orientation Program (FYOP), but it doesn't include a beer tent or an island go-to-know you game. Cadets get their companion book for school purposes, but their physical training kicks into overdrive.

They're woken every morning at 6 by blaring music, then given five minutes to change before morning patrol in 45-to-60 minute walks that consist of running and circuit training. Then they have five minutes to shower and dress before lining up in their pre-assigned groups, known as flights, prior to heading over to the mess hall for breakfast. They wear it six and eat until all flight members have their food and are standing behind their chairs. (Every cadet runs the flight for a day to ensure that orders are carried out and mistakes are not.) Cadets share as much food as they can eat as they can in the next five minutes, return their trays and go back into formation. If they complete everything on time, they carry on. If they don't—and that happens a lot—they're ordered to do push-ups or sit-ups.

Nobody is exempt—especially winners, who comprise about 20 per cent of the total undergraduate student body and who live in the same residences as their male counterparts.

"Everything is equal and fun," says 18-year-old Laura Smith, a five-year cadet from Inverness, Ont. "You don't stand out. It's not supposed to."

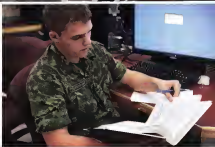
From mass until a stop in... cadets attend class, ensuring with every step they take that they are in perfect marching formation—arms straight, hands closed. After school, they again change into their training gear—grey shorts and a shirt—and compete in sports against other flights. No Frisbee golf in Berkensacks here. They go all out for bragging rights.

At night, cadets attend lectures on topics such as personal drill and the history of RMC, or review the obstacle course that they will attempt to complete on the final day of the orientation program. Before lights out at 10:00 p.m., they do one last round of push-ups or sit-ups, then sing Goodnight Saigon by Billy Joel. They get no more than seven hours of sleep before waking up and repeating the same routine. "During FYOP, you definitely question yourself some days," recalls Matthew LeClair, 18, from Saint John, N.B., who arrived at RMC this year. "You get dragged through the mud and run every day, but at the end of each day you kind of look back and see that you're getting better."

FYOP cadets are with an obstacle course that would challenge even the fittest Olympians.



DRIVING OUT ORDERS: supporting his peers and letting the books do it is a day's work for Cadet Wang. Cadet Wang is a member of the RMC's



pair. It takes about two hours to complete, and comprises 13 elements spread out across the entire campus, all must be completed by each flight, working as a team. "You pull teamwork as they fall behind and encourage each other every step of the way," says LeClair.

Highlights from a year's training included an obstacle called the "low crawl and the fly."

Cadets had to navigate underneath a low hanging net while being sprayed with a fire hose at point blank; then they had to run through a field of mines—picking up mines and throwing them through the rest of the course. Another obstacle, called "ing up up," involved crawling face down in a muddy trench of water for 10 feet before completing as many sit-ups as they could in a five-minute

period with a giant lag on their chests. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," says Smith, who wants to be an combat systems operator after she graduates. "I question how we would finish it, but then the obstacle kicks in and you get through it." After completing the obstacle course, first-year cadets are formally welcomed in RMC during the Building Parade. Members of the



SCENES from an obstacle course: orientation month ends with a grueling test of will and endurance for the program's young men and women, who comprise 30 per cent of cadets.

Old Ingade, who entered BMC 50 years ago or more, present cadets with an original lesson in the "city badge," which symbolizes acceptance into the college. "It really gave us a feeling that we were a part of BMC's history," recalls Smith.

There is a lot more to life at BMC than early-morning runs and grueling obstacle courses. Set on a 41-hectare peninsula on the eastern shores of Lake Ontario, the college trains cadets to excel in four specific areas:

academics, military training, athletics and leadership. Students are required to complete a core curriculum comprising courses in the arts and sciences, along with an in-depth military education, and they must be bilingual in both official languages in order to graduate. The first faculties—arts, sciences and engineering—offer a total of 10 level 1 diploma degrees, 19 majors and 15 diploma level programs to students living at BMC and to an additional 1,000 when postal distance



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in Canada. "Although we are Canada's only military academy, we are one of the institutions of a truly liberal education left in Canada," says RMC's principal, Jack Selodsky.

You don't need to hide out in a school on loan to get through school. Tuition is free. The only thing is cadet pay for in room and meals, although they receive a salary of around \$10,000 a year while in school to help them cover the cost.

There are also no repercussions for dropping out early if you don't like the program—cadets can leave after first year without owing a dime. Those who do stay, however, are required to serve two months in the Canadian Forces—in the navy, army or in force—for every month of subsidised education they receive. That translates into a five-year commitment if you earn a four-year degree.

To help cadets succeed in their academic pursuits, RMC has some unique features you won't find at most universities. Each class is taught by a professor—no teaching

assistants—and with a ratio of one faculty member per six students, classes are small, allowing professors to know students by name. It's not uncommon to find yourself in a fourth-year class with only three or four students. When one struggles in school, a vast support network is in place to identify problems early on and come up with solutions immediately. After all, real universities and papers are tabulated, professors, faculty heads and instructors take part in what's known as "tracks meeting" in November to highlight concerns about particular students. That level of professional involvement isn't independent of the most independent of what type of coursework a student is struggling with, and if need be arrangements are made with coaches and squadron leaders to ensure that a student's schedule or responsibilities are changed appropriately.

Outside of the classroom, cadets must participate in at least 100 minutes of physical activity each week. Some play on one of the

university's 11 varsity teams, which compete in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport association, others play in highly competitive intramural leagues, where they represent their squadrons in sports ranging from water polo to indoor ball hockey. Students are assigned to one of 11 squadrons prior to coming to RMC, and they not only play on the same teams with members of their squadron, but also live with any another in residence for the entire four years.

For cadets looking for the ultimate athletic challenge, there is the elite Sandhurst Military Skills Competition. Only 15 cadets out of an undergraduate student body of 1,100 are chosen to compete in this event, held recently at the prestigious West Point military academy in New York state, yet anyone can participate in the training. Last April, the two-day event featured eight teams, including one from the National Military Academy of Afghanistan. During the competition, each squad performs a series of mental tasks on the 14-hour course, which must be completed within their four hours. Some highlights from the most recent competition included a cadet's boat course, a combat arena in full

gear and a four metre wall that cadets had to climb in 45 seconds without the use of a rope. RMC cadets don't just show up to Sandhurst—they show their skills. They've won the competition four of the past five years. "We were hard for it and have a reputation to uphold," says Bouchard, who will captain next year's team.

Although the Sandhurst military competition is reserved for a select number of students, all cadets participate in extensive military training exercises. Instead of a summer vacation at the end of their first year, cadets take part in up to 11 weeks of training at locations across Canada, depending on whether they are in the navy, army or air force. There, cadets get exposure to the nuances of life in the field. They participate in military exercises using real weapons, eat rations and try to function on only a few hours of sleep.

In the summer that follows, cadets receive formal military and language training, and they gain on-the-job experience for special operations vocations. But that's just part of their education. "You learn a lot about yourself and the people around you," says Bouchard, recalling his 11-day field exercise he



Bouchard planned and led an assault on a heavily guarded facility as one training mission.

took part in at the end of his second year, when he was in charge of planning and executing a night assault mission on a heavily guarded facility. "On day one you are the best of them and on day 11 you see the absolute worst side of them," he says of his own

rades. "But that is where you see the true leaders, those who step up to the plate."

Producing future leaders, capable leaders like Bouchard is what RMC is all about. His life, along with the lives of the men and women he serves with, depends on it. ■

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ON THE RADAR

A look at five Primarily Undergraduate universities reveals the variety of post-secondary options across the country **BY SALLY BROWN**

► University of Ontario Institute of Technology

The University of Ontario Institute of Technology is a relative newcomer to the post-secondary scene, but its mission was clear from the outset: to give its graduates a competitive edge. Putting an emphasis on the practical, UOIT's focus includes business, information technology, engineering and science. Its line-up of energy systems and nuclear science offers Canada's only baccalaureate degree in nuclear engineering. The university is also committed to innovative approaches to alternative energy sources, and offers courses in wind, solar, hydrogen, hydraulic, nuclear and geothermal energy. Currently under construction, the \$18-million Automotive Centre of Excellence (ACE Global) will be a cutting-edge research, design and training centre for the automobile industry. In fact, strength in research contributed to UOIT making a strong debut in the *Maclean's* rankings this year, placing 11th out of 12 Primarily Undergraduate universities.

Located in Oshawa, UOIT's growing rapidly underwritten student was 6,365 this September, a 15 per cent increase from last year.

► Wilfrid Laurier University

Wilfrid Laurier completed recent renovations in Waterloo, Ont., part of Canada's so-called Technology Triangle. Housing 21 research centres and 30 research chairs, innovation is the theme. In spite of growth that has seen its student population double over the past 10 years, Laurier retains a strong sense of community. Tied for fourth place in the *Primarily Undergraduate* category in this year's rankings, with a strong showing on the reputation survey and the number of faculty winning awards and research grants.

The School of Business and Economics has an enrolment of more than 4,500, one of the largest driving curriculum co-op component. Meanwhile, a liberal-arts-focused campus in Bramford, Ont., offers an interdisciplinary program in contemporary studies and a concurrent education program in partnership with Nipissing University. A social work program, at the nearby Kitchener campus, allows students to work closely with service agencies in the area. And through the Centre for Community Service-Learning, more than 1,300 students earn academic credit by working with local non-profit organizations.



The MAH building at Lethbridge was designed by renowned architect Arthur Erickson.

► University of Lethbridge

The location Lethbridge, in northern Alberta, is an ongoing student's well-rounded liberal arts education. Undergraduates are encouraged to participate in research, and the university's model also allows close contact with faculty. When it comes to research, the university strives to stay relevant to the region. The recently completed Alberta Water and Environmental Science Building reflects an interdisciplinary focus of geologists, physicists and economists under one roof. All researching was it. A second place finish in the number of faculty winning medical-science grants helped propel Lethbridge to a mark of sixth this year among *Primarily Undergraduate* universities. The faculty of education, meanwhile, offers an array of Aboriginal and central program options.

The main campus building, University Hall, was designed by world-renowned architect Arthur Erickson and sits nestled in the foothills of the Oldman River. The campus features a state-of-the-art library, a top-notch athletics centre, and the largest university art collection in Canada. Its 23,000-plus students make works by everyone from Nicholas de Gruyter to Picasso.

► Bishop's University

Bishop's is a picturesque and single-campus liberal arts university in Lennoxville, a suburb of Sherbrooke, Que. With less than 2,000 full-time students, the school has fostered a close-knit atmosphere and outside-the-classroom. Small-class sizes and an enviable 15 student-faculty ratio mean students can connect easily with professors. That, along

with more student awards and a higher score on campus safety, contributed to Bishop's enjoying its ranked position more than any other school this year, coming in 11th in the *Primarily Undergraduate* category.

Bishop's offers students diverse programs in business, education, arts and sciences. Teacher education has been a tradition at the university for more than a century, and offers special emphasis on the needs of English schools in Quebec. Nearly a quarter of students are enrolled in the Williams School of Business, which offers a co-op program.

A focus on student involvement in the past 18 months has seen a seven per cent increase in full-time enrollment this fall.

► Mount Saint Vincent University

Founded as a women's academy by the Sisters of Charity in 1871, Mount Saint Vincent University has a long-standing commitment to the education and advancement of women. Although it began accepting male students in 1967, women still outnumber men on campus four to one. Core values of community involvement and social responsibility manifest at the Mount through a commitment to access for non-traditional students, including working mothers. A full line of evening classes, personalized schedules and distance learning provide the flexibility essential to students, many working full-time jobs.

Strategic vision? Halifax, its vibrant waterfront location from the campus. Art galleries, shopping and a thriving nightlife are just some of the attractions. Close proximity to the ocean is another perk. ■



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Most Men's Desk Designer
Liam Hanning (right) at 50
and older, at work

SO YOU WANT TO BE AN

AD MAN

Forget booze and nicotine. A real-life creative director needs vision and guts. BY ROBERT NEAR

▶ WHAT YOU'LL DO

A conductor of an imaginative symphony, the creative director is responsible for the creative output of an ad agency. You manage the creative talent, advising and (most of all) lifting their vision until the client gets the best solution for their brand. Girls in bikinis for Nike? Or grandeur in tuxes for Pate? You decide. Other key responsibilities include working with clients, and having new employees in need to keep the creative team fresh and motivated.

▶ IS IT FOR YOU?

It's a job that runs both the left (organizational) and right (creative) sides of the brain. So you've got great creative vision, you're the type of person who can generate a lot of ideas and execute them, and you're someone with a natural ability to lead.

▶ WHAT YOU NEED TO GET IN

Advertising is unconventional in its approach

to educational credentials. To get your first job, all that matters is that your "book" (your portfolio of self-created ads) is good. But the best way to get a good book is to go to a great school. Advertising programs require only academic marks (an average of 74 per cent), but mostly you'll have to show a passion for creativity (animation, photography, sculpture, website design, etc.) through a portfolio.

▶ SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER

The Ontario College of Art and Design and Humber, both in the Toronto area, have the most well-regarded advertising programs in Canada—Humber for co-op/industry and OCAD for an education. Interestingly, the VCU Board of Governors and the Miami Ad School (both in the United States) are even in the business.

▶ WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

Subjects such as typography, idea development, media design, layout and copywriting

are typical features of advertising programs. Co-op programs can give students hands-on experience.

▶ EXTRACURRICULAR STUFF THAT CAN HELP

Anything that gets your creative energy flowing. Whether it's online, playing sports, reading a good book, be curious, be stimulated. It also helps to learn from the best: read *Adweek*, *Advertising Age*, and check out the winners of the Cannes Lions and One Show to keep abreast of award-winning ads.

▶ JOB PROSPECTS

Many people are attracted to the supposed glamour and excitement of advertising, and in the recent advertising budgets have been slashed to the left. The result: an over supply of talented young people and a lack of jobs. Expect to shop your portfolio around for months, suffering some rejection (remember that need for passion?). But like every profession, the cream will rise to the top.

▶ HOW MUCH YOU'LL MAKE

Depending on the revenue of the ad shop, creative directors can make anywhere from \$75,000 to \$675,000, according to Manpower's 2009 salary benchmark report. Remember, though, that a creative director is near the top of the food chain. Before you're the boss, you'll have to make do with either a copywriter or art director salary—both start at \$25,000—for years. ■



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CAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADES BE TRUSTED?

If you need a better mark to get into that choice university, some private high schools are happy to oblige—for a fee **BY SANDY FARRAN**

On a wet morning in the spring of 2007, teacher Peter Hill was recording marks when he noticed in a envelope that one of his Grade 12 English students was in danger of failing. In fact, Hill explained, he'd been concerned about the student's progress since the start of the year. He'd been talking to the student's parents, but they weren't doing what they'd come to expect. "I was used to handing back essays to kids and if they weren't doing well they'd come back after school and say 'I want to know how they could improve,'" says Hill. "But in this case I handed back the essays and they'd just say 'oh, it's not my fault, it's the teacher's fault.' And I was like, 'God, that's different.'"

His colleague, a guidance counsellor, told Hill not to worry: the student would likely get a good mark anyway because the way he'd done the term course after hours at a nearby independent school. Hill was concerned.

The student was in the United States. The student would regularly send Hill his work during the day, then take the same class at Century in the evening or on Sunday. "The weird thing is that his work was excellent here [in University Hill] taking English with me and they were going to Century High, and if they decided they wanted the Century High mark, then it would go on their transcript and it would appear as if the mark came from this school," says Hill. In British Columbia, that was made possible a few years ago when the province introduced a new policy allowing students to take courses from different institutions. The change was intended to provide choice for rural students, who could take online courses not offered in their home schools and thus choose their "best mark" to appear on their transcript. But the policy had led to so-called credit shopping.

It bothered Hill considerably that a student could be taking the same class at two schools at the same time, then use the higher mark on his application to university—so much so that he decided to do a bit of sleuthing. He found a B.C. government website that lists class marks and provincial exam results for every school—private and public—in the province. And he found some details regarding the student's performance for the year 2006-2007, 101

Century High students (50 per cent of the class) received a B grade or higher in Grade 12 English, just three failed. When he looked at how the same group of 118 students performed on standardized provincial exams, the results were just the opposite: 108 had failed the exam and only eight students got a B grade or higher. He found similar differences during back to school 2007-2008, when the online records began. And Century wasn't the only independent school showing large differences between marks awarded by teachers and provincial exam results.

Hill decided to look into the issue. He began his findings on the local media, and a few days later that minister at education Shirley Bond ordered an inspection of Century and one other school—public or private—that had big differences between class marks and standardized exam results. In March 2007, the B.C. government issued warnings to five independent high schools in Vancouver—Century, Kingston, Royal Canadian College, Paterson and St. John's International—warning they were quickly to address concerns about large differences between English 12 marks on provincial exams and the marks awarded students for class work.

It's long been common practice for secondary students to attend night or summer

AND IF YOU WANT As much as \$1,500 per credit, some high schools will hand out marks in the 90s, whether students deserve them or not

school to make up missed credits or improve a grade. Among teenagers, some public schools are known to be more difficult than others, and some teachers mark easier than others. But that's not new, and by all accounts the public system is still open to it. On the other hand, private schools, once the exclusive domain of the rich, have become more popular. Students from upper-middle and middle-class backgrounds, along with English-as-a-second-language students with excellent grades in math and science but lousy English marks, are turning to private schools because of their low student-teacher ratios, flexible schedules and specialized programs catering to learning disabilities or language immersion. The students' goal is to get not just good marks, but outstanding ones. As the number of students attending university has grown over the past decade, competition for admission to choice programs has grown fierce, in some cases pushing average entering grades up to the 90s.

Of course, most private schools are reputable. But some operators—often referred to as "credit mills" or "credit shops"—are using students desperate to get into university (along with their parents) as cash cows. As long as a student slugs down hundreds of dollars per credit—in some cases as much as \$1,500—these schools are happy to oblige with marks in the 80s and 90s, whether the student earns them or not.

ON MAY 18, 2009, at 8:25 p.m., a Toronto high school student using the handle Skelet1214 posted the following on a forum hosted by the days4u website, a popular site that matches high-school students with scholarship and bursary information at Canadian universities.

Skelet1214: I want to signifying grade 12 advanced functions math this summer, but I am not sure what private school I should go to... there are many... many in Toronto. Now do not that you want to work and you have some one who want to that school and tell me about your experience there. Off the top of my head, some questions:

What mark did you end up getting?
How was the workload, exams and teachers?
How did the process go about it and did I go smoothly for when the school transfer your work back to your school?—did the private school upload the mark on DMC? (Ontario University Applications Centre) or did they send the mark to your original school?

What did you specifically tell guidance counsellors when you knew that you wanted to upgrade or take a credit during the summer at a private school?

Later that evening, Zed5477 replied with a name of a private school in Markham, Ont. Zed5477: I took it for English. I got 90 per cent. Absolutely no workload, came with the 15

minutes, teacher was smart but quite. Process was smooth, I don't have to do anything.

Guidance counsellor didn't like it, especially with a course like English, but it was worth it. It was basically a day your mark, but we read a lot of books so that counts for some thing...

Unlike Vancouver's Peter Hill, educators in Ontario, particularly in the Toronto area, no longer find this kind of disclosure from students surprising. For Joan Timmins, head of guidance at Jean Friesen Secondary School in Mississauga and past president of the Post-Graduate Health Association, Timmins started to believe the story about five years ago at "parents of schools" in Port Hope, west of Toronto. Since then, Timmins says, the number of public high school students taking one or more courses at private school has grown rapidly. "We did a needs assessment with our group of guidance heads, and it was almost the No. 1 area of concern that they wanted to have addressed by the executives," says Timmins.

Counsellors in Toronto and, to a lesser extent, in Ottawa and London express similar concerns. They note that they exclude students who are guaranteed A's in most of their signs on the dotted line and hand over the nation, and students who do not have the course prerequisites in some cases, they

don't even have the prerequisite for the prerequisite) somehow getting an 85 per cent perhaps at a private university. All the public school systems, a principal can watch a transcript, but it's done only under exceptional circumstances. Students have been raised by the number of courses these students are taking and the amount of time required to complete a full credit course. The Grade 12 year is a busy year, and most students take three or a maximum of four courses at once in a semester program," says Thangaraj. "But we have students taking four, five, six, seven courses at the same time. They may be taking three or four here in day school and then taking two or three more at the private institution. There seems to be no limit, and they will get exceptional marks in those courses." Furthermore, "I'm saying yes, some students will actually drop out halfway through a semester and then finish their courses by the end of the semester at a private school. I don't know how, in let's say two months, they have finished four course courses if not more," she says. "I think it's supposed to be in a 110-hour course, why they're doing there is theoretically an impossibility."

In the spring of 2008, principals at several Toronto public high schools decided to track the number of their students taking one or more credits at private academics. As far as anyone knows, it had never officially been done. Anecdotal, everyone from the minister of education to the school board seems to know about the problem, but unlike British Columbia, Ontario does not have provincial courses, so comparisons are difficult. "We're collecting the data. The data tell the story," says Clara Williams, principal at York Mills Collegiate Institute in North Toronto. "There's no question they [private academics] are pepping up all over the place right across the province. In Scarborough, they are pepping up everywhere. And if they do, they do just repeat an another place."

Williams wouldn't divulge the statistics for York Mills. But Beverly Chabot, principal at Toronto's Earl Haig Secondary School, did. During the 2007-2008 academic year, 160 Earl Haig students took a total of 316 credits at 30 private schools. Most took Grade 12 courses in English, followed by math, then a few courses in social science and sciences. "When [we] compared the mark to the mark in our programs, some of them [showed] such a big range that you wonder about the integrity of the program that is being offered," says Chabot.

At Toronto's Forest Hill Collegiate Institute, principal Peggy Anderson said she does track credits per year at private schools. In 2007-2008, mostly in Grade 12 math or English, typically, they earned marks 15 to 40 points higher than at Forest Hill. Several other schools were part of the growth in marks that reflected the data, but many of those connected by Anderson did not return calls. Anderson's wife worked for Mary Jane McNamee, central co-ordinating principal, secondary curriculum, at the Toronto District School Board, who did correspond to a request for an interview.

This is not just an issue for public schools. Some of Toronto's most respected private schools, known for their tough academic programs, are grappling with the same issue. Vince Pagano, the principal at Greenwood Preparatory in northeast Toronto, first noticed his students taking credits outside Greenwood during the early 1990s. "My big problem is the marks that are coming

back in, on occasion, completely out of line, and the difference can be huge," says Pagano. "The example of a kid who got a credit over a three week period actually forced me because, technically anyway, there is a 110-hour requirement for all high school courses so I don't know how anybody can have 100 hours in three weeks—in test results or five weeks, for that matter," Pagano is worried that a few bad apples will give all private schools a bad rep.

AT THE END OF 2008, Anderson's interview with a reported several York Mills students who agreed to speak off the record. All of them successfully finished Grade 12.

Seventeen-year-old Ben took Grade 12 English at a private school while he was enrolled in Grade 11 at York Mills last year. Ben got marks in the 90s in math and science, but English was a problem. He was afraid that if he doesn't get a high Grade 12 English mark, he won't get into his favourite sciences at McMaster. (He eventually managed to be admitted.) "I took this route because some of the courses in high school are especially hard and you can't get higher than 60 or 70 [per cent]," he says. "However, once you take it in private school, you can easily get it. Personally I would recommend it to other people, but some people take all their courses there [private school] because they think they could go into university. That's true. But they'll get kicked out after the first semester because they haven't learned anything."

Ben ended up with an 85 per cent in the private school course.

Sam finished Grade 12 at York Mills and is seriously thinking of taking a course or two at a private school next year. "To be honest," he wrote, "in this age it's all about getting into university, and with all the competition, and an increasing number of immigrants coming from South Asia and East Asia with a lot more knowledge than what most Canadians born students have, the competition gets a lot tougher."

Seventeen-year-old Peter took an English 12 course at a private school this summer. At York Mills, his Grade 11 math and business marks are in the mid 60s, his computer mark is in the 90s. "The main reason I am taking English in summer school is to open up more space in day school to do other subjects," he wrote. "I'm not looking for an easy mark. I'm a French immersion student, however, languages are my weakest subjects and during the year, they are lowest priority. Having only one subject to deal with at a time will help direct all my efforts into

this subject. I plan on going into math, business and I do not plan on submitting English 4U as one of my top 10 courses, so taking a course in summer school to get it out of the way for my last year."

In Ontario, the problem first surfaced publicly in 2003 during the so-called double cohort audit, when the provincial government announced Grade 13. The one-year Grade 12 and 13 students applied to university at the same time. To meet the increase in demand, the Ontario government poured millions into new educational facilities and new spaces at universities. Despite assurances that there would be enough spots for every one who wanted to go, students and parents panicked. "There was a lot of finger pointing," says Queen's University registrar Janine Brady.

Around the same time, a graduate student at Toronto's Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute went public after discovering that about 50 of the school's Grade 12 students were taking one or two credits at private academics. In his view, students were essentially cheating. In September 2004 and June 2006 government inspectors shut down 10 private schools, finding they weren't meeting government standards set out by the Education Act.

In Ontario, all private schools are required to register annually with the government, but only schools that grant credits leading to the Ontario Secondary School Diploma are engaged—generally every two years, but more often if they are having problems, or new is not expanding. If registration is avoided, however, the school may supply to the ministry to keep in a credit granting institution in the following school year. Today, some of the private schools that were closed in 2004 or have reopened under new names, or under the same name but in a different location. Whether private schools have been shut down since that time.

The Ontario government made other changes to try to address the problem. Under the Education Act, a student's home school is responsible for recording grades on the official transcript. So when a student leaves the home school to take a couple of courses, the typically brings those results back to her home school for inclusion on the transcript. This practice angered guidance counsellors and teachers, because first of all the grades were suspect, and secondly—at least back then—they believed as if they themselves had given the marks.

The Ontario Universities' Application Centres made some dramatic changes that allowed home high schools to indicate their "ranked members"—the official identifiers given by the ministry to every school, public and pri-

vate, as that province—once the record of grades sent to OUAU, which in turn sends the record on to universities. "The change allowed high schools to report a separate student number for [private grades] so that it was clear the application centre and to the universities that the marks that this was one of their courses," says Wilfred Laurier registrar Roy Darling, who at the time of the change chaired the Ontario Universities Council on Admissions.

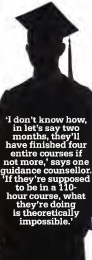
On the surface, the issue disappeared. The OUAU and universities could now identify where credits had come from. But the system is far from perfect.

In a letter last December to Darling, Timmins explained why the current system was not working. "A few years ago, the OUAU made it possible for guidance counsellors to include the student number associated with each credit. This was a combination rule on the day of electronic grades transmission, requiring guidance counselling to use a list of which credits are earned at other institutions and change the student number for each such credit externally. Unfortunately as such, however, some guidance counsellors have been following this process regularly

with the hope of the same in later processing the data and perhaps not realizing that the high credits earned from some of these private institutions do not produce the same level of success in university studies that do the grades from regular day schools. Knowing that such research is actually occurring would encourage guidance counsellors in our own countries and sometimes their efforts to provide the student data via the OUAU tool."

In August, in response to concerns from educators that some private schools are still inflating grades despite the addition of the student number to transcripts, the Education Ministry announced that beginning in 2009, credits earned at private schools will be marked with the letter "P" on transcripts. Timmins believes it's a step in the right direction. But many educators aren't convinced that it's an answer—after all, a number or a letter doesn't indicate whether a student earned that grade.

In an interview with McNamee, Darling admits that until now universities have not done anything with the data. "The whole system relies on a grade is a grade issue," says Darling. "If we have to go in to weight



'I don't know how, in let's say two months, they'll have finished four entire courses if not more,' says one guidance counsellor. 'If they're supposed to be in a 110-hour course, what they're doing is theoretically impossible.'

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ings of different schools and delivery methods, summer school versus distance versus day school—big, broad, grey, rainy and messy.” Furthermore, most decisions by far are made by computer. “You couldn’t go through them [applications] manually,” Darling says. Heard also says, the registrar at the University of Waterloo, have agreed to undertake a pilot study of the data submitted in the future at the moment, it’s still in the planning phase. “I think this is one of those when we first agreed this was a solution,” Darling explains, “we people were saying, ‘Great, we can use this to shut down people who are abusing the system, but then are you going to take the next step and start examining all of this and see where our grades are?’”

Tracking high schools using their government school identification number is not new. In the past, the University of Toronto’s engineering faculty did it until the province changed the curriculum during the double cohort. The University of Waterloo’s engineering faculty will make minor adjustments to marks based on high school. But the practice has never really taken off, largely because it’s highly unpopular among high school and university officials alike. “If I said I’m interested in School X, we could go back through our records and identify every student who has taken courses at school X,” explains Karl Swift, the registrar at the University of Toronto. “And if we accepted them, and they came here, we could then look at how they did. That would take years and it wouldn’t be useful unless you had a fairly large number of students from that school. It would be several years before the school could have disappeared or changed or changed its name.” And then there’s a practical reality. “No matter how good or not good a school may be,” Swift says, “a student could be legitimately a very good student and contribute very well [at university] no matter what their past experiences.”

Students say accepting private schools is good, but there needs to be done to improve the education system itself in Ontario. Blakey Simpson, who is in first year at the University of Guelph, hasn’t taken a course at a private school, but she has friends who have and she’s somewhat sympathetic. “Obviously if you do have a private school, it’s better,” Simpson says, “there is something wrong with the regular high school system.” She also wonders why so many students come and leave another year after finishing Grade 12—the so-called victory lap, during which they repeat courses or take additional courses in an effort to improve their marks. Some even use it as a way to do non-academic activities they

never had time for before, such as running for student council or participating in a sports team. “I think the problem started [in Ontario] when they got rid of Grade 13,” she says. “It has impacted everything down on us and it makes our lives stressful because there is so much to do.”

York Mills student Sam also lays the blame on the system itself. “Students from my school cannot cope with the workload, and the workload seems with the high schools,” And like many other students, he laments the high marks required to get into universities. “It would be really awesome if universities could a little more about [what] content and less about marks.”

Meanwhile, in British Columbia, the 2007 12th individual school results have recently been posted on the government’s website. It appears that Century, Royal Canadian, Pelican and St. John’s College International have aligned their grading practices more closely with provincial standards. One of the

schools, Kingman High, has closed, citing a drop in student enrolment after the government issued its warning. For the remaining first schools, the differences between marks made and classroom marks have shrunk. “It’s amazing how much lower the exam mark is to the school mark compared to some other years where the school marks as all As and the exam marks were Fs, in effect,” says Kingman teacher Bill.

Deborah Robinson, executive director, strategic credential management at the University of British Columbia, has followed the issue closely. She says that UBC doesn’t adjust marks to balance when a student comes from, but some of the government’s recent policies have made things more difficult for admission people. “Has the ministry completed our last by opening up choice?” Robinson asks. “Yes, they have.”

For one thing, she’s recently seen direct responses using studentizing courses through distance learning. “As students are sent to do, they quickly learn who has a res and who does not,” she says. Robinson, whose university has recently introduced new rules about distance learning credits. “We had a councillor report to us that a student signed up for science education course on Friday and completed it on Monday, and actually received a mark in the 90s,” says Robinson.

There are a number of reasons why it is more difficult for students to use more than one mark to assist students applications. Certain programs, such as music or drama, have their own admission process, and some other programs ask students to write a personal essay. But for most applicants, that kind of personal attention is simply not possible. “As Canada’s top institutions start to attract more and more students, not only nationally but internationally as well, we have to start to deal with all kinds of different transcripts and credentials and marking schemes,” says Robinson. “What you try to do is get it right 95 per cent of the time. And you wish that it was more exact than that, but it’s not.”

So what happened to the Grade 12 student who was failing English at University Hall, the one Peter Hall was so concerned about? The teacher chuckles when asked if his student graduated. “Oh yes,” he says. “She got a 44 per cent class mark in the course and a 90 per cent course mark from Century. She failed the provincial exam, but then her course mark was blended with her mark from Century she received an overall 76 per cent in the course.”

She ended up in a post-grade science program at UBC. ■

PHOTO: JEFFREY HARRIS



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is essential to an accurate diagnosis, and all medical schools try to instill the need for strong interpersonal skills. Teachers considering medicine should also be detail-oriented, analytical, very strong academically—and willing to stay in school for years.

▶ WHAT YOU'LL MAKE

Family physicians earn less (see figures on next page, from \$106,000 to \$121,000 annually, depending on the region). Specialists can make up to \$193,000. ■

per cent. McGill recommends applicants have a 3.5 GPA (between a B+ and an A) to be considered competitive. The mean GPA of those accepted at the University of Alberta was 3.8. To apply at most schools, applicants must also write the MCAT exam, complete prerequisite undergraduate courses, submit reference letters and write an essay. The lucky ones who get through the first cut will be invited to an interview.

▶ SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER

There are 17 medical schools in Canada. Most limit the number of out-of-province students, so you'll have the best shot by applying in your own province. Some schools emphasize academics (easier than others, so research which school's application process will best complement your strengths and weaknesses).

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▶ EXTRACURRICULAR STUFF THAT CAN HELP

Doing good outside of the classroom is also lately essential to any medical school applicant. Schools are looking for not only outstanding students, but also dedicated community members who have demonstrated leadership, social responsibility and integrity. At UBC, for instance, extracurricular activities and work experience are scrutinized to identify attributes such as life experience, experience out of one's comfort zone, academic placement, responsibility, innovation and intellectual curiosity, and the list goes on. There are many ways to demonstrate these qualities—sports, arts, volunteer work, professional experience, travel—and many medical school applicants list several activities on their applications, so pursue every opportunity you can.

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Family physicians earn less (see figures on next page, from \$106,000 to \$121,000 annually, depending on the region). Specialists can make up to \$193,000. ■

NETWORKING U

How IT is helping educators engage students in new ways

BY JENNIFER PAGELAND • She wanted to engage the "we generation" in a new way. In 2002, Jenn Adams, a professor at York University's Schulich School of Business, took two classes of about 400 first-year business management students, divided them into groups and handed tablet PCs to those who didn't have their own notebook computers. (That was made possible by a Hewlett-Packard Technology for Teaching grant that Adams won that year.) The students' challenge: to work together in real time, through screen sharing on their laptops, and create storyboards to solve the seemingly difficult business cases Adams had presented to them. She then put their work on a projection screen in front of the class, where she could comment on and pull ideas from—making the classroom experience more immediately gratifying and highly visual. "The ability to get who's in just really quite amazing," Adams says.

Once upon a time—in love laptops, cell phones and Web 2.0—a professor's only competition for attention in the classroom was her students' wandering imaginations. But it today's leading educators, the digital classroom is no longer a novelty. These days, high school graduates, armed with shorter attention spans but greater expectations that their teachers go beyond "chalk and talk," pose a real challenge to educators. How to inspire students to conduct their own research or engage with course materials, when the traditional lecture no longer measures up to the eyes candy and possibilities of new media?

The goal now is, universities on the past decade have been adapting to meet students at the level of technology they've come to accept. That means not only deploying state-of-the-art hardware and software, but also embracing the concepts of social networking and virtual communities. "Learning is a social activity," says Adams, who is now in the third year of her learning and technology project. "I'm trying to use the technology to make the face-to-face contact even richer." That's also the challenge of teaching students themselves how to use the new technology products wisely—learning the ropes on the university, Adams says, puts her students at a huge advantage. Picking up on the popularity of social networking tools like Facebook and Twitter,



A LECTURE HALL at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology: beyond 'chalk and talk'

educators see new opportunities to engage students in their studies. It's now common for institutions to use an online learning management system, such as Blackboard or Moodle—"the academic Facebook," as Adams's students call it—in order to organize and distribute lecture notes, assignments and quizzes.

At the University of British Columbia, the Learning Enhancement Academic Partnership program—or LEAP—builds on the idea

WHAT'S OKAY ON FACEBOOK MIGHT NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR AN ACADEMIC SITE

of multiplatform learning. It's a portal for tools and resources that's been online since 2001. Brian Lamb, manager of emerging technologies and digital content at UBC, says that weblogs and wikis aren't new phenomena at UBC—in fact, the university pioneered the use of these learning tools in Canada. LEAP takes online resources even further by giving students and those managing the site the ability to aggregate their own content. On LEAP, students blog about campus life and academic

issues, there are also helpful links and tips on various such topics, such as how to find and use academic podcasts, or where to find and download flash and software for studying. (The portal also lets students share the tools with friends via Twitter.) "Giving students to manage their own learning experience is extremely important," says Michelle Lam, director of the Office of Learning and Technology at UBC.

Such portals have the new flashier bells and whistles of social networking, like chat and forum functions. But what has also become some thorny issues. Sure, students like to use chat forums to talk about course material with fellow classmates, notes Mike Stephens, an assistant professor and associate director of the University of Victoria Learning and Teaching Centre. But today's students are so accustomed to online things, symbols and shortcuts, that some of them might find a difficult to distinguish between what's appropriate on Facebook and

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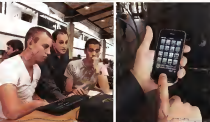
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Clockwise from top: UGAC's server hub, Carleton's new iTunes application for the iPhone, Queen's engineering students in a classroom without walls, 'a culture of innovation'

what's suitable for academic equivalents like Moodle. Spilloni says students have to think before they post, and ask themselves "Can I use these comments in the same way I do when I'm posting a tweet on Twitter?" After all, on Moodle and unlike like they're "developing a particular type of identity online," she says—one that will right follow them throughout their academic and professional careers.

But despite such concerns, connectivity also offers one big advantage: convenience. At universities like McMaster and Carleton, students access online libraries and postmodernized traditional lecture halls to suit for help instead of meeting on campus. Some professors are even holding office hours via Skype videoconferencing, making meeting virtually like the real thing, says Carol Miles, director of learning tech-

nologies and teaching support at Carleton.

Most computers now offer wireless Internet, and Internet connectivity is becoming a thing of the past as schools move toward 100 per cent coverage. The realization that students have become hooked on mobility inspired two educators from the University of Saskatchewan's computer science department.

"When a lecture is over, students pop open their cell phones and start doing their assignments," says Eric Newfield, head of the department. "I wanted to be able to teach those cell phones."

Clad Jones, an instructor and former Apple employee who teaches a second-year computer science class centered on iPhone programming, worked with a department team that developed an iPhone and iPod Touch application called UStream—the first of its kind for a Canadian university. The app

allows students to check their current grades, find out where their class is and the building it's in using a GPS-enabled campus map, or even check to see if the library book they want is available—all while they walk between classes. "We're making software for students," Jones says. On top of that, students in his class participate in the development of new features for the application—and it's all for credit. Jones says the app had received a two-downloads by the end of the semester this year, and other schools have already contacted the department about creating similar applications.

The idea that technology has become synonymous with the student experience is being embraced at many leading institutions. "We're becoming very much a laptop campus," says Carleton's Miles. "Basically, all of our students are now connected to the Internet one way or another." At Carleton, students can watch lectures over cable TV or stream them online with Carleton University TV. They can also splice together segments of lectures and add video notes, then post them on a site to share with classmates as study tools. That core is handy during a room strike by local transit workers—Miles says some 20 professors had their lectures recorded, so students who couldn't make it to class could still keep up.

So is the classroom an anachronism? Not yet. "I think we have to be careful not to get tangled up in the technology," says Miles. Some educators wary of becoming dependent on IT as a teaching medium, some faculty are simply not up to the challenge of embracing new tools. At UWaterloo's Spadina campus, says many are motivated to meet the demands of today's students. "Although you can't force faculty to use technology in a lecture," she says, "what you can do is create a culture of innovation."

The technological challenges remain, such as expanding the online accessibility of scholarly articles and journals, adopting a no-book policy—which would be much cheaper to download than their hard-copy counterparts are to buy—and continuously increasing the reach of student-friendly mobile technology.

But some great things come in decidedly low-tech forms. At UBC, for instance, students can use their laptops without worrying about dead batteries, even outside, thanks to the simple installation of electrical plugs on outdoor tables. Now they can learn just about anything on campus—"when it doesn't rain," Carleton notes with a laugh.

If only there was a techno-fix for Vancouver weather. ■

WILLIAMS CANADIAN Jennifer Pugh is a journalist based in Carleton Place for the *Blog Team* of *Maclean's* at carleton.macleans.ca/jenpugh.

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GET FREE MONEY

Big changes to grant and loan programs could brighten your financial future

BY ERIN HILLMAN • Students have got a surprise in the mail this year. Upon opening the fiscal letter that told you how much student loan funding you will receive, you might have found yourself the recipient of a nice surprise: a grant that you never asked for. It's the free money awarded to good to be true, for now the brand new Canada Student Grant program kicked off in August 2009, and it means you'll receive extra dough you don't have to pay back later.

The 2009 fall semester brought big changes to student aid—including the new grant program, the scrapping of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation (the previous source of national bursaries and scholarships), and a new Repayment Assistance Program to help student loan borrowers who are having trouble repaying their debts after graduation. If you're one of the 150,000 students who borrow from the government each year, these changes affect you.

Since Aug. 1, when students apply for a student loan, they are also applying for a student grant for a grant as well. Full-time students deemed to be from low-income families



WONDERING if you qualify? The new federal aid scheme strives to be easy and predictable

receive an extra \$250 per month, those from middle-income families receive an extra \$100 per month, paid out at the beginning of each semester. (Information about family income levels, as well as the new grant and loan repayment schemes is available at canada.ca.)

According to Katherine Gosselin, national champion of the Canadian Federation of Students, an important distinction between the previous bursary program and the new grant program is that grant funding is determined according to family income rather than "need" (your own financial resources). So no matter whether students have savings from their summer job or borrowed money from an uncle, they will get the grant as long as their family's income is low enough.

Take the example student Andrea from a low-income family and, after subtracting her savings from her total university costs, she needs \$1,500. If she applies for a grant and \$1,500 in student loans, Andrea has to borrow a low-income family and, having sold her car and worked her butt off during the summer, she needs only \$1,400. She will receive a \$1,000 grant and won't have to take out student loans. If students qualify, they get the grant—simple as that.

The program's predictability is one of its greatest benefits, according to Gosselin. That's a change from the Millennium bursaries, the qualifications for which were often unclear. "I remember one student calling it the Millennium Scholarship Program, a bit of a joke," Gosselin says, but being able to come in knowing the grant will now help students plan their finances. Unlike the soon-to-be defunct Millennium

grants, the new program is available to first-year students. There are also new grants specifically for students with unique needs, such as those with dependents, with disabilities or who attend school part time. With all the new programs in place, many more students are eligible for grants than in previous years. Human Resources and Social Development Canada estimates that 34,000 college and university students qualify for a grant—300,000 more than the number who received Millennium bursaries last year.

Alex Usher, vice president and director of the Educational Policy Institute Canada (EPI), says that because there was no increase in overall aid funding for the program, it really boils down to smaller cheques for more students. EPI points out that because eligibility for the program is determined according to need, almost all mature students qualify. (Those who have been out of high school for more than four years are not required to include their parents in their family income.) "It's possible made in the sense that it will drive up program costs substantially without necessarily increasing access, in some of those students will already have been in post-secondary education for a long time," Usher says.

The result? The lucky students who used to qualify for Millennium grants will likely receive less funding. But if that's not, don't fret: the Canada Student Grant program has created a transition grant to fill the gap for up to three years. ■

REACHING OUT For more advice, visit canada.ca or www.students.ca. Student Financials Looking for money for school? Go to canada.ca for canada.ca and click on Scholarships.

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SECURITY officers at York for any student who is male or her own for the first time, dealing with the law can be a frightening experience

CAMPUS RULE

What you need to know if university life gets you in trouble

BY TOM HENNEFFER • Campus life can be a beautiful thing. Living on your own, meeting friends, discovering the wonder of beer, and seeing your first love over the night time a week. It's a freeing experience. But there's more to worry about than the desired freedom is. The lifestyle of university, even if you don't embrace it, is *Absolutely Free*, can lead you into confrontations with the law—when, for anyone who's not rowing for the first time, and rarely of legal age, can be a downright scary straight experience.

So here's a guide to living in residence, burning an A on campus, and dealing with the repercussions that can come with partying a little bit too hard.

Q: Do I have to sacrifice rights by living on campus?

A: Yes. When you move in to residence, you're agreeing to a set of rules, and you're bound to that agreement. That means you have to follow the rules about drinking, about quiet hours, about guests, and about pretty much anything else the university chooses to restrict.

Q: My friends and I decided to light some string of incense "incense" and now a couple of residence advisors are banging on my door. I have to let them in?

A: The short answer is no, you don't. Your room is technically your private property for the duration of your lease, which means residence staff can't legally enter it without your permission. If they ask to come in, you can say no, and there's not much they can do aside from issuing a warning and maybe requiring you to meet with the residence supervisor or house dean. But trespassing isn't a bad idea. There are certain situations where people can enter your room without permission. Residence staff can come in during an emergency. The smell of smoke, one of it is a fire, would generally constitute an emergency at most universities. Staff may also be able to enter your room if you aren't there (a power they normally use when someone has left the alarm on). And staff can call the police, who can certainly come inside if they smell smoke or drugs.

Q: We smashed everything and opened the door. Can they search my room?

A: No. Neither residence staff nor campus security can search your room. Normally, only police officers have that power, and only if they have a warrant or reasonable grounds to suspect you're hiding something illegal. However, whatever is in plain sight is fair game.

Q: So what happens if they are something?

A: That all depends on what you have. Dis-

fract schools ban different items in residence, but beer, glass bottles, drug paraphernalia (such as bong and pipes) and items associated with drinking games and excessive drinking (such as beer bong or horn-strapping equipment) are not allowed in most university dorms. Generally, they can be confiscated and you can be fined.

Q: What happens if they find something less than legal?

A: That's up to the discretion of staff and the residence supervisor or dean, but they usually let campus security or the police do the confiscating in such circumstances. Otherwise they could be charged for possessing an illegal substance.

However, universities usually want to solve minor problems internally to keep students from sending up with criminal records. If the infraction isn't serious, you'll probably be meeting with the residence supervisor, the dean of students, or the residence disciplinary committee. You might get off with a warning, but you could also be punished. Depending on the offence, you may only have to write an essay, or you might be put on alcohol

probation. More serious offences, however, have a zero-tolerance policy on drugs, and you can be thrown out of residence. It could find something more serious, such as a dangerous weapon, narcotics or a large amount of



BIRTHDAY party at St. Francis Xavier: students are encouraged to party responsibly

drugs, the police will probably be involved.

Q I wasn't the one who broke all the curfew in the residence. Do I have to pay the house fine?

A: Some universities have general fines and some don't. Regardless, residence staff will normally do everything they can to avoid punishing guilty and innocent students equally. This includes holding meetings, putting up posters and asking people to come forward with information. Once these options are exhausted, a general fine may be issued. If your school doesn't issue fines, the cost of repairs will probably be made up in the next year's tuition and residence fees.

Q I was just walking in my friend's dorm, studying my own textbook and drinking a beer when campus police grabbed my beer and poured it out. Can they do that? What else can campus police confiscate?

A: Open liquor is illegal in public places, including university campuses, and campus security officers can ask people to pour it out. But the powers of campus police vary greatly from province to province and university to university.

The University of Saskatchewan's security officers, for instance, have no set curfew hours. That means they have more power than the average officer, but don't quite have the same powers as police officers. They can take you to court, however, and they can issue a \$350 order under the *Sexual Offences (Prohibition and Control) Act*.

On the other hand, campus security officers at the University of New Brunswick aren't armed constables. They can ask you to pour out open liquor, and they can recommend to

a student disciplinary council that you be fined. This may not sound threatening, but if you refuse to co-operate they can also call the police.

Q Since there is a public bar on the ground, but I've still got some in my backpack. Can they search me for more?

A: Not if they suspect you for having open liquor. Campus police can usually search people in two circumstances: when students are placed under arrest or when they're causing an event (like a hockey game) where everyone is searched on entry.

Q Can campus police ever arrest me?

A: Yes, but only in some circumstances. Regular police officers can make an arrest based on reasonable suspicion that a person has committed a crime. Campus police can't. In many cases police officers can perform a citizen's arrest if the witnesses observe something a crime. Special constables have additional powers, but they vary from province to province.

Q Do I have to show my university student ID if I am asked for it?

A: Yes. And if you don't the police may be called or you might be arrested off campus.

Q What happens if I finish a prohibited or banned item on campus?

A: Most universities try to handle disciplinary and minor criminal cases internally. The police are usually called only to deal with violent crimes, sexual assaults or other major problems. If you're caught smoking marijuana or drinking a light outside the campus bar, you'll probably be dealt with the campus security officers before the head of your faculty or the campus disciplinary committee.

Q What is the disciplinary process in residence?

A: Most small problems are handled by the residence staff on hand. Does a residence coordinator usually deal with these problems in major cases like drug or alcohol, and some universities have councils made up of students and staff that review appeals of disciplinary decisions. Unresolved problems may move up the chain of command to the head of residence life or the dean of students.

Q What if I don't live in residence?

A: Most schools try to avoid the disciplinary process altogether by having faculty or staff resolve conflicts through discussion and mediation with students. The next step may be to address complaints to the head of a student's faculty or program, who will then resolve the issue through dialogue, mediation, disciplinary action or by referring it to an ad-hoc or permanent disciplinary committee. At smaller universities without many faculties, complaints are generally handled by members of staff, such as the head of residence life or the dean of students, but could still go before a committee.

Q How do these committees work?

A: They're normally made up of students, faculty, staff, student and other members of the university community. Students are generally referred to the committee when a problem is very serious or when all other methods of resolution have been exhausted. Students are usually required to answer some questions and tell their side of the story. They sometimes have an opportunity to address advisors made the complaint against them, whether it be another student, a professor or a security officer, but the accused is often pre-tested and respondents might only be able to defend themselves against a complaint or report. Reports can be written by anyone involved in the situation, from a campus police officer to a faculty member to a special investigative officer appointed by the committee.

Q If I do come before a disciplinary committee, do I need a lawyer?

A: Disciplinary committees are set up so students can tell their side of the story and engage in discussion without legal representation. Just like in court of a witness, many schools allow students to have an advocate (often a faculty member, parent or, rarely, lawyer) but hold the bar on students not normally allowed to speak on a student's behalf.

Q How does the appeals process work?

A: If new evidence comes to light or if a sentence is believed to be too harsh, a student may be able to appeal to a specific appeals committee, to the dean of students, or to another university official. Not all universities have an appeals process. ■



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SO YOU WANT TO BE AN

ARCHITECT

You'll need design skills and artistic flair, plus the ability to deliver on budget **BY ROBERT NEAR**

▶ WHAT YOU'LL DO

The word "architect" may conjure up the image of a man standing in front of an easel, pondering a detailed line drawing of an elaborate marble facade. But drawing and designing are only part of the job. Architects also compute for costs, budget resources, and follow projects through to completion. Above all, architects are problem solvers. Brad Larocque, a Vancouver architect who specializes in custom homes, says he often doesn't know what he'll be doing every day when he arrives at the office. "Our days are filled with surprises."

▶ IS IT FOR YOU?

Successful architects must be both creative and detail oriented. The ability to draw and express design ideas is only valuable if the architect is also able to create completed, detailed plans on budget. Architects also need to be in touch with their city's social and environmental agenda. "Beyond making buildings, all good architects understand that there is a social responsibility. Buildings are part of a larger context," says Terence Galvin, director of Dalhousie's school of architecture.

▶ WHAT YOU NEED TO GET IN

In some universities, such as the University of British Columbia, only after a master's in architecture, while others, such as Dalhousie University and the University of Waterloo, allow students to begin studying architecture after their second year of undergraduate education. To qualify for a master's of architecture, any bachelor's degree will do, but learning about both fine arts and math is a benefit. On average, students require at least a 3.0 GPA (B average) to apply, although some schools will consider students with a 3.0 GPA (B-). A portfolio demonstrating artistic merit is a must. "That can be expressed in words, in music, in painting—some form of seeing things in a creative and somewhat original way," says Galvin.

▶ SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER

Accredited architecture schools are at UBC, University of Calgary, University of Manitoba, Waterloo, University of Toronto, Carleton University, Université de Montréal, McGill University, Université Laval and Dalhousie.

▶ WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

During your coursework, you'll study every

aspect of the trade, from building design and the history of architecture to legal issues that affect architects. In the past decade, schools have also added classes about green architecture that focus on sustainable building methods and materials. After obtaining a master's degree, graduates are required to complete an internship of 3,600 hours (about three years) before writing the licensing exam.

▶ EXTRACURRICULAR STUDY THAT CAN HELP

There are three areas of extracurricular activities that benefit architecture applicants, according to Galvin: craft-based experience such as carpentry or ceramics, volunteer experience that demonstrates social responsibility, and travel. "If students have gone to Europe and seen some of the fabulous buildings," he says, "it usually helps them write clearly about that and it opens their eyes to the world."

▶ JOB PROSPECTS

Most architecture schools claim near to a 100 per cent employment rate after graduation. Of course, with the downturn in the economy, the job market has softened—but it still appears that architects are not in surplus. The good news is that they can find jobs in a wide variety of places, from architecture firms, to city hall, to sustainable organizations.

▶ WHAT YOU'LL MAKE

On the low end, entry-level architects make as little as \$16,800 a year, while the average salary is in the \$40,000 range. Most architects at the peak of their career can expect to make around \$80,000. ■



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I ♥ MY TEACHER

If affairs between faculty and students are wrong, why do they often seem so right? BY EMIN MILLAR

He was a handsome, charismatic young secondary teacher and a musician. I was an under-graduate music student some 10 years his junior, enthralled by his charm and impressed with his musical success. I had never taken one of his classes. But when we bumped into each other in the right-then-wrong department where I was working toward a bachelor's degree, over his most casual acknowledgment I found my heart so easily won.

The past I tell upon me as I danced in the crowd of club goers was not only in my imagination. He had two times the life of the previous summer at a party, after I'd just returned from backpacking in Thailand, tanned and overflowing with stories about elephants and Buddha's antics. Toward the end of the academic year, I showed up alone at one of his gigs and hung around afterwards chatting with the other musicians as they cleared the stage. He offered me a ride home, then roped me for a drink the next morning. And then our romance began.

That the teacher of my affections—whom I will call Peter for this article—was a faculty member at a school did not disadvantage me from seeing me as my attraction. I did not feel that my attraction was being taken advantage of. I considered myself an adult capable of making judgments about my life. Never did it occur to me that I might be a victim of sexual harassment. Yet now, years later, I realize that as the eyes of administrators and harassment advisers at many universities, my experience would be exactly that—the exploitation of young female students and an abuse of the trust put in professors.

Student-teacher love has been around since Socrates, but the general consensus now is

that teaching must be platonic to be respectable. So should my attraction have provoked me from a relationship that was exploitative by definition? Or, as some scholars argue, does prohibiting the erotic from entering the classroom actually make professors worse?

Second is a cheap, arrogant English professor and failed novelist who neglects his more successful writer wife, sooths at "philosophical" and has sex with his vicious student. Like his character in the movie *The Student and the Whale* is the archetype of the pop culture professor: cynical, literate and middle-aged, seething with unmet ambition and kicking against the dullness of suburban life, he preys on students to get the recognition he no longer commands from peers or family.

Why has this archetype found such a secure place in the popular imagination? William Deresiewicz, a former English professor at Yale University, considers the question in *The American Scholar*, a controversial 2007 paper called "Love on the Campus." He argues that the concept of "romanticism in denial," where strong middle-aged men live in walled-off enclaves, "was in vogue because increasingly visible to everyone—first when so-called colleges became universities, then universities turned their backs on the 1960s. The feminist crusade against sexual harassment in the 1980s made universities especially sensitive to faculty conduct since they were among the public institutions most responsive to feminism."

Deresiewicz argues that in our culture there is an increasing uneasiness, growing from the exploitation of children raped on campus. Add in a generation of over-entire baby-boomer parents, and you had a recipe for an effusion of paternalistic policies to protect young, vulnerable female students from perverse, older professors. "The shift was most pronounced in the early 1990s, when a wave of American universities outright prohibited student-faculty dating."

Canadian writers took a more nuanced approach. No university contacted explicitly prohibits professors from becoming sexually or emotionally involved with students. There are, of course, rules that address harassment, discrimination and conflicts of interest. The Canadian universities have strayed from legislating when a faculty can be too close with a student. Katz, a lawyer and senior scholar at York University in Toronto, says that's because they simply can't do it, legally. But even if universities could prohibit sex between

consenting adults, the world not advise them to, despite the argument that students are professor's clients are unprofessional and unethical. Katz, who developed York's policy on close personal relationships between instructors and students, says if it's always a bad idea to meet rules that are disproportionately ignored because it brings the university's justice system into disrepute. "Think about how you would enforce those laws. Do you have the resources and the staff to check if the rules? My research and my experience in the time showed that those kind of policies didn't work."

In my case, Peter did not break any written rule, but Katz says his actions were not without risk—since even consensual sexual relationships can be seen as liability to both the teacher and the university.

Take the case of Linda Dugan, a former graduate student in biology at the University of British Columbia, and her supervisor Dale Sep, a Ministry of Forest scientific biologist and adjunct professor. Dugan and Sep had a brief sexual relationship in 1996 while on a research trip to the Queen-Charlotte Islands, starting when Sep owed a single room to her to share without rent. Dugan, upon returning to Vancouver, she changed her dates to 1997, informed UBC and did not want Sep involved in her work, and filed a sexual harassment complaint with the university and the B.C. Council of Human Rights. Although the council found that Dugan did not voice objection to the sexual arrangements

earlier, the sexual advances, it ruled that the power imbalance between them put her in such a vulnerable position that Sep was guilty of sexual harassment. Dugan was awarded \$20,000 for damages and \$14,000 in lost wages because her thesis was delayed.

Every case of student-faculty romance I spoke to first raised the power differential argument. The idea is that students can never give meaningful consent in a close relationship with a professor. In a 2000 paper, Katz describes how professors have "the power to grade and evaluate a student's work, the power to provide letters for graduate and professional schools and for jobs, the power to serve as mentors or career mentors and sometimes as role models." So even if there is no promise of reward or threat of punishment, the student's vulnerability makes that relationship, qua fact, exploitative.

Katz says that there is statistical and anecdotal evidence showing a proportion of students who avoid their professors during their fourth year of a period of time about when the relationship was exploitative. Had I changed my mind about my relationship with Peter, she asked. I remember her defending my nervousness as the reasons leading up to that first date. I was certainly not the same butterfly in my stomach feelings caused by dates with my peers. I wanted to look and sound grown-up, to show her with my best self rather than only with my teenage self being badly. Yet when we were riding across from each other in an out-of-the-way restaurant, the conversation flowed with ease and our voices got louder as we graded stories. The chemistry between us was of real substance. We talked until the bar closed and then in my apartment, until the sky along the horizon brightened. Every act of intimacy, however small, was intensely wanted. We moved slowly and nervously over many hours, like teenagers.

Thus a where, in my experience, the mean engagement argument breaks down. None of my past lovers had ever preceded with such care. With every touch, every kiss, consent was solicited and granted. Surely I, at the age of 21, was able to experience legitimate attraction to a man and make the decision to sex upon it. Was I attracted to Peter in part because of his prominent position at our school and in the music community? Of course. But what makes that less valid than any other reason for sexual attraction?

Peter's hesitancy also suggests that our power dynamics were more complex than that of romantic Bernard and his adoring Lily. At the time, I was a young woman in a ship, I could have decided that I was not comfortable with his conduct and filed a harassment complaint. Although I was an



♥ Was I attracted in part because of his position? Of course. But why is that less valid than any other reason for sexual attraction?

adults in common with relationship, professors shows I probably would have met.

One woman I spoke to, who is an older grad student, a professor decades older than her, and then she who was in control of the relationship. Since he was married and in a conflict of interest because he was grading her, she had him by the balls. "She also felt that she held some power over him deeply because she was a beautiful young woman sleeping with a much older, less attractive man. Sex can be a great leveler."

I believe my affair with Peter was not exploitative. That does not mean no student-faculty relationship is that. It does not follow that because some consensual relationships between students and professors are based on power imbalances, all students who date their teachers should be considered unfit to give consent. Power dynamics—sex, attractiveness, accomplishments—are part of every relationship, no matter where lovers meet. As UCLA professor Paul K. Abramson, author of *Relationships in the Ivory Tower*, said, "People make foolish sexual choices. It's also important to make conscious choices in life. But to legislate that in any way is absurd."

In 2004, Naomi Wolf, feminist and author of *The Beauty Myth*, wrote in a *New York* magazine article that she was sexually harassed by her biology teacher, Harold Bloom 30 years earlier, when she was an undergraduate at Yale University. In the story piece, Bloom wrote the 1973 book *The Attraction of Narcissism* into a series of literary criticism, went to Wolf's home for dinner to discuss her poetry manuscript. They ate and drank with her roommates, and while left alone the professor had sex with her in his Wolf wrote "The next thing I know his heavy, bearded hand was hot on my thigh. I blushed, sure. This is not what I thought, I remembered. This whole thing had ended only on the quality of a bad horror movie. . . I turned away from him and found myself vomiting."

That one-night transgression apparently had a huge impact on Wolf, leaving off "a moral crisis, shaking any confidence in the man whom I was in." But she did not report the incident for fear of consequences. Bloom had written a reference letter for her Rhodes Scholarship application. Wolf needed his support to get financial help to complete with her doctoral fellowships. Wolf needed his support to get financial help to complete with her doctoral fellowships. Wolf needed his support to get financial help to complete with her doctoral fellowships.

Wolf needed his support to get financial help to complete with her doctoral fellowships. Wolf needed his support to get financial help to complete with her doctoral fellowships. Wolf needed his support to get financial help to complete with her doctoral fellowships.



♥ The perception among students is, "She's sleeping with him. Of course she's going to get good grades or advantages."

Bloom was worth it. In the course of writing his article, Wolf accompanied him on her Yale trip and took notes since to discourage him from sexualizing her. She concluded that "the atmosphere of collusion that had helped to keep me quiet 20 years ago was still latent as attractive as a Mosaic byproduct."

Universities ought to have policies to protect students from harassment. Like most universities, Yale has a harassment policy and a complaint process, all posted on its web site. It also has sexual harassment student-faculty cases. So if Bloom groped Wolf today (he is now, by the way, almost 80), rather than in the 1950s, and if Wolf had complained, he would be disciplined. What were could Wolf have from Yale?

Bloom has never commented on Wolf's story. But the article ignited intense controversy. Camille Paglia, a feminist author and professor who has a history of spurring public debate, said "It really reads as the victim with her hands and all the accompanying hysteria." Laura Kaplan, a media professor at Northwestern University who has written extensively on gender issues, questioned the gravity of Wolf's accusation, noting that Bloom took her as an answer to his offer of "Why," Kaplan asked, "any such answer regarded as a lifetime issue."

OF COURSE, a student-professor romance can lead to online harassment. One woman I spoke to dated much older professor for five months when she was an undergrad. She felt sexually violated and her self-esteem suffered. In the

months after the ended the relationship, her depression worsened and she developed a serious eating disorder. But even she said her intensity had burned out even strongly discouraged student-professor relationships? No. "It was a bad relationship," she says. "It was not healthy. But it didn't have anything to do with the university."

So we return to that twin-headed eye in student-faculty relationships open the door to sexual harassment? Do they create the atmosphere of collusion Wolf described? My experience dating Peter suggests the opposite. My department is acutely aware that "atmosphere of collusion," although "atmosphere of collusion" is probably a more fitting description. Because I was just a student, teachers and students were part of the same little world, working around the same time and went to the same parties. I was encouraged to go to Peter's restaurant guy about after another teacher asked a friend of mine, on Peter's behalf, whether I was single. Other teachers and students were aware of our romance. No fewer than three teachers in our program were happily married and had children. So did several of our students were accepted, albeit only if conducted discreetly.

Because our work was so intense, Peter and I were careful. He told me recently, when I contacted him about this article, that he approached me with extreme caution, more so than women he met elsewhere. "I was someone I was going to see again," Peter also said that he has never heard of a deep professional relationship between teacher and student in the program. Opponents of such a relationship would be well-served.

When I told Kate other students and professors seemed to be aware of my relationship with Peter, she brought up a compelling argument against student-professor consensual relationships. "The perception among students is, 'She's sleeping with him. Of course she's going to get good grades or advantages.'"

Although Peter never graded me, our relationship could have influenced how my other teachers evaluated me.

Walter D'Arcangelo, a criminology professor at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology who has researched sexual harassment on campus, offers an example to illustrate how those perceptions of relationships could lead to unfairness. "If that happens," he says, "it's not having a full professor with his wife who is on campus taking a course with a person who is working toward a master's. Would that personified fear to give the size good marks for fear of losing it?"

But what if it is a fair? Is it because in the *Ivory Tower*, Abramson concludes the validity

of concerns about fairness, but questions whether they are grounds to prohibit student-faculty relationships. "I believe it is naive, to say the least, to contend that college students are not the recipients of emotional favoritism, especially when it is a similarly great person that is emotionally connected to the professor unfairly infusing the evaluation of their lover," he wrote. Effects to result out to minority students or minorities, he added, could also be considered unfair.

So, given that favoritism exists on campus, should universities single out one type of relationship to police? Abramson would say no. He argues that universities that do are violating a right as basic as religious freedom. "What is more fundamental than what that making a choice about who to love?"

In the final year of my old undergraduate degree, I took a class that changed my life. It was a second-year political philosophy course that dealt with Supreme Court rulings and public education policy. I had never thought about such things before. The professor, a doctor of philosophy who had been teaching for nearly 35 years, spent a good deal of time asking his students on questions of civil liberties. He also is a fire in me.

I admired this teacher greatly. I wanted to sound like him in class. I tracked every argument with excitement. He influenced my work at the student newspaper. I emailed him to ask about ethical questions. I recommended. I looked him dinner once. He changed some of the best writing I did. I did an internship and indirectly he pushed me to pursue a career as a writer.

Was I involved in him in the same way I was in Peter? In both cases, I sought the approval of an older teacher figure. Because he was four decades older than me and married, a sexual relationship never occurred to me, but I was intensely drawn to him.

When I think about the teacher who influenced me during my education, three others come to mind. From all I sought approval and better work for them than I would have for another professor. It also developed a tension, but not sexual, relationship with them that put me in some form to this day. Another commonality they were all men. A psychology might suggest that I pursued affection from older men as a pursuit of authority to fill the emotional void left by my father, who was absent during most of my childhood, but I think something else was going on. I think the spark of attraction between a student and teacher can be a useful pedagogical tool.

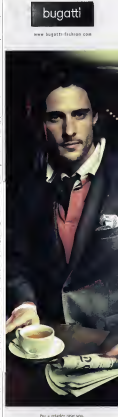
Christina Nehring, author of *A Vindication of Love*, points to historical examples of great work coming from student-teacher romance in a 2001 essay in *Harper's*. The letters of

intellectual passion between the revolutionary student Heloise and her teacher Abelard made up one of the most moving bodies of medieval literature. The sculptor of August Rodin and his student lover Louise-Clotilde. Paul Verlaine and Arthur Rimbaud. Nehring, an American novelist and critic based in Paris, describes the love romance attraction to her professors played in her own education. "At the beginning of quarter I shipped around for teachers to have crushes on. I said it was a waste, a long term, when I found none," she wrote. "I missed the flame of minor lights—looming felt well that I could not generate at least a little heat against would freeze." Further, crushes on teachers were more powerful and productive.

No of course medieval student romance can be the fiery, red-hot love affair of Heloise and Abelard, according to Nehring. More often they are a quiet crush or a "tiny and repressed passion" that influences the interest of a student. "Students can work from behind the scenes," she writes. "Teachers that the work in the classroom is charged, ambitious and vigorous." She decries how strict actual harassment policies create a culture of fear on campus. "For the university campus as a whole the sexual impulse between student and student is criminalized in the campus as which pedagogical experience is defined," she writes. "It is the campus on which pedagogy is practiced and grown."

I am grateful to have been an undergraduate as a student in an institution where romantic affairs between students and faculty were not frowned upon, because the possibility of student-faculty romance existed. It was a place where you could have a beer with your professor, where teaching continued outside of the classroom. The atmosphere of idealism, free of the culture of fear Nehring describes, permitted the type of intimate relationships that inspired me to continue for my subject and an enduring enthusiasm for learning. As Peter recently told me, "The opportunity for creativity is in the venue."

Perhaps it was the lack of pedagogical freedom Peter and I first contributed to the end of our love affair. After a low-key night listening to our hipper records, we did not have much more to share, usually at least occasionally. I remember going to an art gallery with him last summer. While we were having a drink afterwards, I was at a loss for things to say about what we had seen. Our conversation no longer flowed with ease. When we walked that day, I stood alone in front of the gallery for a moment, knowing our relationship had ended, and feeling the first wave of heartbreak set in—no more no more—damaging, and restless, than that of any other failed love affair. ■



BEAT THE CLOCK

Yes, you can have the perfect schedule of courses. Here's how.

BY SCOTT DOBBS MITCHELL • In high school, course selection is simple. Once all the mandatory courses are dropped into your schedule, you get to choose between art, drama or music. Then everything is put together automatically. In university, things get a bit more complicated.

Suddenly, you have some decisions over what day a five-week class is, or whether you take a course in three one-hour lectures a week or one three-hour lecture a week. You can even take into account what the instructor is. Fortunately, five years, choosing the right courses and putting together a schedule can seem like an impossible task.

Here is the countdown of the Top Five tips to help you score the perfect schedule.

TIP 5 **A two-day school week can be yours.** You're dismayed about an open elementary school. And if you're one of my younger brothers, you've had to suffer through at least one semester of free-lugging-it-up. (Don't call it a study fair yet.)

Step one is, avoid choosing a course just because it sounds "interesting" or "exciting." It's good if a course can expand your horizons. Or doesn't make you drool or nod off during lectures. But if you really want a two-day week, you need to approach scheduling with different real priorities. As in, which courses can Tuesday or Thursday, between 10:00 and 3:30? Or three hours any day, once a week?

A two-day schedule isn't for everyone. But if your mandatory courses are particularly demanding, a two-day schedule can be a life saver. Every week I have to spend hours in a microbiology and organic chemistry lab. But along that week a part-time job and several life-related things, let alone actually getting some time to study for classes. Without those extra three days off every week, it would be impossible. Heck, the fact that I don't have to ride the bus every single day gives me extra hours to study or simply relax.

TIP 4 **The course description tells you everything you need to know.** First off, is there a final exam? Or do the professor use "cumulative" or "examinations" to determine your grade? And then there's the holy grail of Mickey



YOU NEED to square time for post-hungry, late-but safe and convenient eat-up hours. See

Moose choose a late home final exam. I know what you're thinking: How can a late home final exam be better than no exam? The thing is, if a course doesn't have a final exam, there's usually some big end of the year project that takes hours of commitment and hard work and research. As in, the end of project, you forget about until the night before it's due. A late home final exam is the best of both worlds. It never takes too long to complete, and you write it in the comfort of your home.

It's impossible to completely avoid in-class examinations if some of your mandatory courses will definitely have them. But if you choose electives that minimize your total number of exams, you'll think yourself in December.

TIP 3 **Do you actually have to show up?** Yeah, yeah, I know. Students who skip classes get bad marks. But some professors upload podcasts of their lec-

tures online. Sometimes they have a CD of their lectures available. And some professors hand out a booklet of their notes. Sometimes they do all of the above.

I swear, I'm not making that up.

TIP 2 **Once you've found a potential class, gather some intel.** Look it up on MyCampus.com, for instance. Sometimes the comments can really help you gain some insight. Like, "The first exam is killer," or "Unfair market, impossible to get a good grade." Other times, the comments are "Too...uh...destructive or helpful" (e.g. "This course = monkey balls").

Another useful website: moodle.com. Students rate their courses based on its "badness," its content. They can also leave comments, like "No midterms, no final, only two essays," or "This is the best class I've ever taken." The only problem there's no universal definition of "bale." Some people can't "eat" with "no work." When they give a course a 5/5 on the badness, it's not because it's a great course. It's because there's a small workload. There's an important difference between the two.

The number one thing to keep in mind when using a website like moodle.com or mycampus.com is that of difficult courses requiring a lot of time and energy. Sometimes you can get misled when a student, probably looking for an easy way to avoid a hard class, rates about how easy a course is—when in reality, it's a killer.

There are usually ways to spot a two-day-for-honor course. That organic chemistry class with a 5/5 on the bad scale? That one, don't take it.

When it comes to trusting these anonymous online ratings sites, proceed with caution and remember they're just small widgets in your tool box of how to Pick the Perfect Course.

TIP 1 **Never explain. Never apologize.** Whenever people talk about your two-day schedule, some times they'll start preaching facile advice. Like "You need to take courses that interest you." Or "You have to get all the mandatory courses for your program." Or they might ask you the "The very concept of a two-day class is flawed."

Ignore them. They're just jealous of your perfect schedule. ■

MILLIE/ALAN CAMPBELL • Scott Mitchell is a second-year pre-med student at the University of Waterloo. Follow his blog at mitchell.ca/encampus.

A smooth way to face Monday mornings

Put your best face forward without pulling, tugging or irritating your skin – and start the new week with impeccably smooth skin.

Monday morning – it's something we all have to face after an action-packed weekend. For two full days, you ditched your suit, your laptop and your usual shaving routine. But now the games have ended, the concert is a wrap, the party's over – and lie the rest of the guys: all you've got left of the weekend is a gritty face staring back at you in the mirror. So how can you get back your clean-shaven look and reduce the risk of irritating your skin in the process?

"One of the best parts about the weekend? Not having to shave! But that leaves difficult stubble to contend with on Monday. For that, you need a shaver designed to challenge and defeat Monday morning stubble!"

— Henry, 28

So what's the trouble with serious stubble? Your current electric shaver may not be able to deal with it, tugging at the long hairs and pulling the short ones. And all that hair pulling, tugging and discomfort can leave you with irritated skin – just adding to your Monday-morning misery. Tough beards make for tough shaving. With the right shaver, you can forget about the special challenges your weekend stubble presents and start the week confidently with a clean, smooth shave.



So how do you go from scruffy to smooth without sacrificing comfort?

The smooth solution

- To keep your skin smooth and help reduce irritation, look for a shaver with multiple cutting elements designed to remove long hairs as easily as the short ones.
- For a clean and comfortable shave in hard to reach areas like the neck, try a shaver with independently floating elements that can easily adapt to your face and capture hairs growing in different directions.
- Have your shaver clean, trimle fresh! With a cleaning system like Braun's Clean & Refresh™, you'll feel like you're using a new shaver every day. It automatically cleans lubricates, dries and charges the shaver at the touch of one button.



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SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ENGINEER

Good at math? Want to change the world? Then the sky's the limit. BY ROBERT NEAR

▶ WHAT YOU'LL DO
An engineer uses math and science to invent new solutions to old problems. What solutions you'll create depend on what type of engineering you'll do—civil, computer, electrical—but engineering is now used in a broad array of fields and applications. Canadian Bridge gave us better access to Anne de Gooch, the BlackBerry gave Jan Hal-

lie the means of not the ability to purchase an NHL team, the Sonyi made movement possible for even the laziest of people.

▶ IS IT FOR YOU?
An aptitude in math and physics is a given. Beyond that, passionate engineers should be curious about the world and, most importantly, want to make it a better place.

▶ WHAT YOU NEED TO GET IN
Aim for the moon—high school marks in the mid- to high 80s in chemistry, English, math and physics courses. Once you make it through your bachelor's, you're not an engineer yet. To get your licence (BEng), you'll need four years of work experience and the successful completion of an ethics exam.

▶ SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER
There are 40 accredited engineering schools in Canada, graduating from any of them with a high marks ensures a good chance at an entry-level job. But some schools specialize in certain fields. (For example, Waterloo is highly regarded for its co-op program; the University of Alberta has its own nanotechnology research centre.) Look at the school's graduate-level research and faculty to know if its interests match yours.

▶ WHAT YOU'LL STUDY
Many schools have a common or base year at the undergraduate level, during which students either take all of the same classes or can choose from a set of courses, from calculus to engineering graphics. The idea is to get a solid understanding in engineering fundamentals. Then students go on to specialize, studying the required courses of their chosen field of engineering, whether a biotech, chemical, nuclear and so on.

▶ EXTRACURRICULAR STUFF THAT CAN HELP
At the university level, students should get involved with their school's engineering society. You'll make great connections, and find their enthusiasm and apply the technical skills you'll learn in class. Engineers have a reputation to their community, too, as joining an organization that emphasizes that reputation, such as Engineers Without Borders, is a good idea.

▶ JOB PROSPECTS
Engineers Canada's recent labour market study forecasts a shortage of engineers in the coming years, so prospects are good. Society will always need traditional engineers to build and rebuild its infrastructure, and as we increasingly use sophisticated technology there are more emerging sectors for engineers to work in, biomedical research, nanotechnology, computer engineering, and so on.

▶ HOW MUCH YOU'LL MAKE
Starting salaries range from \$40,000 to \$50,000, so you get a few years on the job experience and become a professional, that can jump from \$55,000 to well over \$100,000. ■

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TALKING POINTS Professors are only human—they make mistakes—and most of them have the power and the freedom to change grades.

HOW TO FIGHT BACK

The dos and don'ts of appealing an unsatisfactory grade

BY CAROLAN ABERNETHY-FINCH • It's inevitable, at some point in your academic career, you will receive a grade that you will be less than thrilled with. It might be of your own doing. Maybe you decided to throw a togethery the night before an exam, or slipped so many classes that when you showed up for a cameo appearance on the last day of school the professor asked, "And you are...?" Yet a situation may arise when you feel convinced you're the victim—when you just don't deserve that crummy mark. In that case, before you go totally berserk—remember that you have the right to ask why you received the grade and, just as importantly, to take action if you disagree with the answer.

To understand your options and how best to proceed, take a lesson from one student's attempt to change two failing grades. Tom (last name withheld for privacy) was in his second year at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, N.S., when he went through one of those life experiences that can knock you off your feet for a while. After finishing his Christmas exams, Tom returned to his family home in northern Ontario, where his parents sit him down in the living room and told him that after 12 years of marriage they

had decided to separate. Tom was stunned by the news, but he returned to Antigonish and resumed his studies, believing he could handle the turmoil and complete his academic year.

Upon returning, Tom sought counselling and even informed his professors about his family situation. But just when things were starting to improve an issue termed tripping, he scored another blow. He logged onto his student account in May and discovered that he had failed two courses. "I got a 40 [per cent] in a history and an English course," recalls Tom, "and they were both full year courses."

Beside the history mark was a note indicating that he could write a supplementary exam, so he accepted the option, wrote the exam three weeks later, and eventually received a passing grade. He wasn't so lucky when it came to his English mark. After several emails to the professor went unanswered, he officially appealed the grade online by paying a \$10 administration fee through his student account. "That was a mistake," says Tom. "I should have spoken to the dean's office first so we could have explored any other options." The professor told the dean's office that the senior received Tom's final paper, which was worth 10 per cent of the term mark, and Tom was excused later in the semester that the appeal had been

denied. (Tom is positive he submitted the final paper on time, but he had no way of proving it because he didn't save the email—another mistake.)

Upon returning to school in the fall, Tom wanted to discuss the issue with the professor, but the professor was gone. As a last resort, he approached the dean to look into the matter one last time. But the dean turned out to be "not exactly the most understanding person to deal with," recalls Tom. He waited, and waited some more, but he never followed up with the dean. (Tom another mistake.) When the dean finally did get back in touch, he told Tom there was nothing he could do.

Tom still scoffs at the outcome. "After all this—that I went through, that you [the professor] knew about, you couldn't find two extra marks to pass me! It was a slap in the face." Yet he is quick to point out that he

could have handled the situation better. "It should have been a more pressing time when I got back to school," he says. "I just got absorbed in school and sort of forgot."

Fast lesson: be proactive if you want any chance of improving a grade or having it reinstated. Michele Gervais, director of the Student Appeal Centre at the University of Ottawa, recommends that a student

approach their professor in person as soon as possible. The reason is that most professors have the power and freedom to change a grade, as long as it is within a reasonable time frame, and bringing the matter to their attention quickly "shows them that you are serious and that you care about your grades," explains Gervais.

It's important to remember also that professors are only human and they make mistakes. A mark could have been tabulated incorrectly or a paper could simply have been misplaced. "That's why it is important to keep all records of your marks," says Gervais. Tom could have avoided the appeal process altogether and received a passing grade if only he had saved the email in which he sent his term paper.

Another approach, which Tom ignored, is to hold off appealing the grade until all other avenues are explored. One York University student interviewed for this article reviewed his classwork by simply phoning the faculty office; the secretary proposed the idea of asking another professor to review the student's grade in a different course to bring up his overall average. The secretary phoned the professor and explained the situation. By the next day, the student had a new grade that enabled him to keep his scholarship.

If you haven't all avenues without obtaining a favourable outcome, or aren't lucky enough to come across a sympathetic secretary or professor who feels a little like us when it comes to a failed appeal or grade review as a last resort, but be cautious. A grade review involves another set of eyes looking over

your work and then assigning you a new grade. It could end up doing more harm than good—you could, after all, end up with an even lower mark. "Unless you've failed a course, this route can be a gamble," says Gervais.

If you do decide to go forward with an appeal, keep a few things in mind. First, ensure that any written appeal explaining your side of the story is clear, factual and concise. A stranger should be able to understand your request. Second, make sure you photocopy all documents you submit and write down the contact details of every relevant person you speak to. And finally, don't forget about a little Tom did. It's taken longer than you would pick up the phone, take a deep breath, and get an answer—no matter how long it takes. ■

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REJECTS 'R US

One student's story about not getting into his dream program

BY BOB BOON MITCHELL • Microscopes. Lab coats. David Bodin: "What's the name of this?" "No, I'm talking about the perfect pre-med program in this case, health sciences at McMaster University."

In my last year of high school, when filling out university applications, health sciences at McMaster seemed like a perfect fit. I knew that after my undergraduate degree, I wanted to study medicine, and McMaster's program has all the prerequisites built in. It gives students lab experience, and it's focused on biology, any biochemistry subject area.

The more I read about the program, the more I wanted it. Health sciences at McMaster was my first choice program. But here's the catch: A minimum 90 per cent average is required for consideration, but in order to be competitive you need to be in the top 10% at the very least.

Most schools across Canada claim they'll consider any undergraduate degree—meaning, it doesn't matter if you have a degree in biology, anthropology, engineering or drama. It's your GPA that really counts. Most med schools will have prerequisite courses, like organic chemistry, microbiology and physics. You can apply to med school with a music degree, but you still need to have all of those mandatory courses. The beauty of McMaster's health sciences after completing the program, you have all the necessary prerequisites to apply to any med school across Canada.

Oh, then I call the fact that McMaster allows us to experiment with cadavers. Seriously. A 90+ average isn't the only thing you need to get in. There's also the mandatory supplementary application—essays and personal questions, including a few self-reflective ones. One asks, "What's one extracurricular activity that's important to your sense of self and why?" There's only one thing worse than a musical, open-ended, self-explanation kind of question like that. And that's question No. 2: "What is the one question that shouldn't be asked and why?" (I know instinctively not to write "Have you seen Jesus Christ in your personal Lord and Saviour?")

Unlike with real estate, when it comes to choosing a university, location isn't the most important criteria. Sure, it matters. But when I decided health sciences at McMaster was my first choice program, it wasn't because it



MCMMASTER health sciences requires a 90+ average—plus answering some odd questions

had the most convenient location. After all, I live within 15 minutes of the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier. But health sciences at McMaster was still number one. It was meant to be.

Five forward several months. Early acceptance letters were being mailed out. And finally, it arrived: the letter from McMaster. It almost didn't make it to me. My cousin's name was riding on that letter. If I got into the program, I was one step closer to med school. Did my cousin have competitive enough? Did my essay convey my sense of self well enough?

I opened the letter: "After careful consideration, we are not able to offer you admission at this time."

I didn't get in. I had been rejected. I read the letter again and again, hoping to see something like, "Nah, we're just messing with you. You've been accepted!"

I had often from the biology programs at McMaster, Waterloo and Toronto, along with health studies and human biomedical sciences at Waterloo. But who wants the consolation prize? I hadn't gotten into my first choice program.

What now? Well, sometimes, Plan B turns out better than Plan A. In the end, accepting the offer for the human biomedical sciences program at Waterloo was a compromise. Sure, I don't get to experiment with cadavers. But at the University of Waterloo's website states, "Waterloo's highly flexible biomedical sciences program

can prepare you for almost any health profession program in North America." Oh, and the website also points out, all the prerequisite courses for almost every med school in North America are built right into the program.

Biomedical sciences at Waterloo also allows students lots of freedom, so they can customize the program to meet their individual preferences. You have the freedom to take a variety of courses, including one to pursue that interest in photography, medical literature or abstract art. Not to mention that a well-balanced schedule can be a lifesaver when you're weighed down with physics, organic chemistry and cell biology courses.

I'm now in my second year of the program at Waterloo. I still remember how I felt after sending out my applications—like my entire life was hanging in the balance, completely dependent on getting into my first choice program. If it could have pushed an instant beam-into McMaster's health sciences program, I would have. But then I wouldn't have ended up where I am today, truly enjoying my courses and labs, and actually looking forward to microbiology lectures.

Maybe I should have enjoyed McMaster's health sciences program just so much. Or maybe I wouldn't have. Either way, I didn't get into my first choice program. And it wasn't the end of the world. ■

WILLING TO COMPROMISE • Bodin's writing partners are online in his "Medical Intelligence" blog at mcmasters.ca/obscure



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Like Cousteau, you have to love nature

SO YOU WANT TO BE A

MARINE BIOLOGIST

Look to the coastal universities and set your sights on a graduate degree **BY ROBERT NEAR**

► WHAT YOU'LL DO

Ah, the life aqaunt! You will be out on the water, wind and sun in your face, collecting data on all manner of specimens, including sea turtles, orcas, humpbacks and whales, living like Jacques Cousteau—about a fifth of the time. Mostly, you will be in the office, using

scientific models to analyze your data and, hopefully, publishing your findings.

► IS IT FOR YOU?

You will spend a lot of time on a boat, in remote locations, away from society—only you and your fellow researchers. A love for

and comfort with nature and people are essential. For lab work and publishing, an aptitude in math, science and writing will help you succeed.

► WHAT YOU NEED TO GET IN

At a minimum, your high school grades will need to be over 75 per cent to get into a top bachelor of science program. Prerequisites include English, math and science courses. Keep your nose to the books throughout university so you'll get the grades needed for masters and Ph.D. student-oriented degrees if you want to lead research teams.

► SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER

The top marine biology schools are on Canada's coasts: the University of British Columbia, Dalhousie, University of Victoria and Memorial. That said, inland schools such as McGill, Alberta and Guelph have popular biology programs that offer summer field studies at coastal research facilities.

► WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

Most bachelor of science programs give you a base of one to two years where you learn general scientific disciplines: chemistry, statistics, physics, biology, etc. But later on you can specialize in marine biology, taking courses such as "Integrative Vertebrate Biology" and "Introduction to Aquatic Environments." Realize, however, that graduate schools might actually like that you come from another field of scientific study. You could offer a unique perspective. There's no rush to specialize at the undergrad level.

► EXTRACURRICULAR STUFF THAT CAN HELP

Learning how to scuba dive and how to place a boat would be useful. So, too, would any environment-related volunteering. In the latter years of your undergrad, be sure to volunteer at a professor's lab.

► JOB PROSPECTS

The most upswing in environmental awareness bodes well for marine biologists. There are three main employers in the field: government (Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and its provincial and territorial counterparts), university research centres and corporate consultants. A bachelor's degree can land you work as a lab technician, but for more opportunities and better chances, you'll need a master's or even a Ph.D.

► HOW MUCH YOU'LL MAKE

A broad range of salaries is available. A lab technician earns \$13,000, while master's and Ph.D.-educated grads can find positions that pay as high as \$100,000 and up. ■

I have a passion
or the environment



I have a passion
or discovery



I have a passion
or learning



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FROM IDEA TO REALITY

Your school project might earn you more than a good grade

BY BEN MILLAR • Parker Mitchell was unemployed. An engineering student at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Mitchell had spent his last undergraduate co-op term engineering door hinges for a 1998 Saturn automobile. That's a fine task for an engineer, and yet he felt something was missing.

For his final-year project, he went looking for a more fulfilling topic—and he found it in some notes belonging to his predecessor's late colleague, an engineer originally from India. The notes described the challenges of water and sanitation in India, and the statistics thickened Mitchell: one billion Indians live without access to desalination, 2.5 billion people worldwide live without adequate sanitation, so, for his project, he decided to create a household device that could provide enough clean water for a family of four and would cost less than \$10. He had no idea at the time that would eventually lead him and his classmate, George Stone, to overbreak their expected career paths and found Engineers Without Borders—an organization that over the past decade has helped bring better agricultural technology to an estimated 100 million farmers in developing countries around the world.

The fact is, plenty of real-world, practical ideas that go on to spawn successful careers often get their start in the ivory towers of academia. The clinical-chem-projects-turned-success story, narrated by business professors the world over, is FedEx—a company conceived at a Yale University economics party in the late fifties. FedEx founder Fred Smith received a failing grade for the project but, hoping to prove his prof wrong, went on to launch what is now one of the largest pack-

age-delivery companies in the world. There's much to be learned from the story, of course—Smith has said he received a “good” (really “C”) but not “great” grade—and it’s worth noting university students’ brilliant concept (and therefore equally inspired) by a professor who was welcomed by the world as a success.

The FedEx rose is rarely by design, of course. Mitchell, for instance, realized early on that a low-cost water filter would never solve India's water problems. “I learned that technical solutions are only one small part of what is needed,” he says. Myriad factors in India meant that his filter would never be used for its intended purpose. Such the experience changed his perspective on engineering as a profession. Could engineers put their skills to work by solving the problems facing poverty-stricken parts of the world? With that question in mind, Mitchell and Stone set off to learn about the environmental, cultural and social elements that would allow them to apply engineer-like problem-solving to the challenge of ensuring water poverty. Now, Mitchell still would surprise that he ended up as the co-CEO of a prominent NGO. “I’d sometimes had asked to go to a public meeting in Italy in 10 years to be leading something, my name would have been in the bottom third of the list of everyone in my class,” he laughs.

Like Mitchell, Melissa Kluger had no idea where her education would take her when she started law school at the University of Toronto. After she completed an undergraduate degree at Queen's University, Kluger enrolled in law school because she loved the university environment and “was looking for an excuse to stay in school.”

At U of T, she was surprised to discover that no public-interest existed for law students. So—on her last day at Queen's, where she started a student creative writing magazine—



SEVE IT A C. FedEx did its job as a university project but it's a world-leader as a business.

she jumped in the chance to create a new student publication. “It was a time when there weren't a lot of opportunities and most students needed a letter to talk,” she recalls. “Students were wearing corporate clothes, publishing papers, winning sports events—the kinds of things a community is built on. I felt compelled to fill this gap for our student community and our local community.”

That her entrance in publishing could turn into a viable career did not occur to her at the time. Upon graduating from law school, she practiced media law for three years. But she missed the creative process. “As much as I enjoyed working with journalism, I really wanted to be one of them.” At a young law firm, she received a similar paper to the one she'd started at Queen's and U of T. A lack of publications highlighting the community of young legal professionals. So she left private practice in 2005 and launched Proclaim, a magazine for young lawyers that reflected their lifestyles. “I needed to know about how to prepare for a meeting but also about what to wear, where to take a client for lunch and what kind of wine to order,” she says.

FROM WITHIN SOURCE

was throughout my undergraduate experience that I needed the opportunity for my career and my passion to align.”

Morrice's passion was to do something about global climate change, and he convinced a professor to allow him to research ways to govern carbon emissions. He came to the conclusion that carbon pricing was inevitable. “There is going to be a price on carbon emissions very soon,” he explains, “so rather than talking about whether it can be a cap and trade market as the best way to go, the more important point to focus on is what are the business implications and where does business have an opportunity to be a part of the solution?”

Morrice, like Kluger, identified a gap that needed to be filled. In a second research term, he and chemistry classmate Chris DeWitt wrote a business plan. The result? Sustainable Waterloo, a non-profit consulting organization that helps local businesses prepare for carbon pricing and is helping an environmental market to emerge. They launched the organization in 2007 while in their final term of their undergraduate, and within months had attracted the support of the cities of Waterloo and Kitchener, U of T and the David Suzuki Foundation, Wilfrid Laurier and Waterloo universities, politicians and dozens of companies. After only seven months of volunteering to get the organization off the ground, Morrice received his first paycheck.

Like Morrice and DeWitt, many relationships that turn into key professional partnerships are forged on university campuses. Smith was the case for Fred Smith and Ted Geisel, who met when they sat next to one another during a lecture at the University of Minnesota. The two business students started talking about their career plans—both were set to take over their fathers' businesses—and hit it off.

Together they got involved in AIESEC, a student-run organization that facilitates international internships and eventually became president and vice-president of their chapter.

“The students organization was the catalyst of what would become a business together,” Smith says, noting that they were able to attract more funding and job opportunities than any other chapter in Canada that year. “We knew that there was some magic there because of our success together.”

So after graduation and gaining international work experience—in Latin for Geisel, in China for Smith—they decided to start a business together. The pair believed that marketplaces like the one at AIESEC and wondered whether companies would sponsor their marketing needs in the same way they sponsored their. They set up a TV table in Smith's mother's basement and founded Invest Solutions. Now 10 years old, the company has nearly 20 employees, won the 2008 RBC Young Entrepreneur Award and in 2008 was named in Prelo as one of Canada's 100 fastest growing companies. “My grandfather used to say: if you want to be successful, surround yourself with incredible people. University is one of the best environments to do that, so go out and establish relationships,” Smith says.

“These people end up being your co-workers, your employees, your suppliers, your advisors, your mentors. The people we met 13 years ago at the University of Alberta are still a huge part of our business today.”

‘UNIVERSITY IS ONE OF THE BEST ENVIRONMENTS TO GO OUT AND ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS’

What's the constant factor in successful entrepreneurs? Morrice speaks of business strategy and marketing skills when asked how he applied his education to the launch of Sustainable Waterloo. But

he's clear about what he believes to be the most important skill: he gained an awareness. “Being really proactive. That has gotten us so very far,” Mitchell agrees. “I don't know anyone who has made a choice that has made them successful, that then later tells them it's the right thing, who has chosen to regret it,” he says. “But the number of people who have regretted making the choice that their parents wanted them to make or that society suggested they take—I have a lot of people who regret that.” ■

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A HARBIN LAB at Dalhousie: one of the biggest reasons that students end up taking more than four years to graduate is simple curiosity.

IS FIVE FOR YOU?

The good and the bad about taking an extra year to get a degree

BY ERIN MILLAR • Imagine you are in the last semester of your undergraduate degree. You worked two jobs to pay for school. You are tired of thousands of dollars in debt. You can't wait to finally pick up that degree and begin the next stage of your life. But when you turn in your application for graduation, you are surprised—among one course and will have to enter back next year.

It's every senior student's nightmare, and it's more common than you might think. Sometimes by accident and sometimes by design, an increasing number of students are taking longer than four years to finish four-year degrees. Statistics Canada reports that half of all 22-year-olds were still in school in 2001, compared to a quarter in 1991. Many students are choosing to take longer to work, take time off, or simply avoid going crazy from a full course load, but even for those who want to get out in five, there are many pitfalls to dodge.

Alex Terrence, vice president for students at the University of Calgary, says that the key to staying on the four-year track is to make

advice you've gotten an advisor as soon as you get to university. "For some students," says Terrence, "the first time they see an advisor is in a reactive way, when they're going into their last year." General arts and science students are most affected by the problem because they have so much choice. No matter how conscientious the student, the university system is difficult to navigate and making a small mistake that can add a semester can happen to anyone. "Sometimes students feel they do not need any help and they realize later in these programs that they should have sought the advice of an advisor earlier," says Terrence.

The nasty fourth-year surprise that happens every year would be graduates in precisely the reason Calgary last year created its "graduation guarantee" program. Terrence says the program, which promises to pick up the tab for any courses students are forced to take after the four-year mark, was conceived in response to undergraduates and advisors who complained that coming ahead of one's schedule sometimes prevented students from graduating in four years. Advisors, says Terrence, "were soaping their frustration in a meeting with a student in giving into their two-year wait because that student really didn't have the prerequisite needed to take

the fourth-year course that was only offered in the first semester."

One of the most common reasons students stretch out their undergraduate degrees is indecision. Oliver Cowan, who went to graduate in spring 2013 with an education degree from the University of British Columbia,

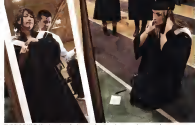
Tips to get out in four

1. Consult an academic advisor from day one.
2. Learn about your university's system. Do you know your program's requirements? Are you sure you know the prerequisites to take the classes you need at the right time?
3. Make your advisor and enough in the program you intend to be studying or talking to professors or advisors. Try to avoid switching programs.
4. Avoid working during the academic year. Apply for all scholarships and bursaries, work during the summers, and take out student loans.
5. Make school your top priority. If you must work, look for jobs that are flexible.
6. Take summer courses to keep the course flow during the academic year.
7. Don't don't be equally all-invested in graduation; be sure it doesn't make sense for you.

another university as an English major, then switched to political science, then to sociology before going back to English and, finally, education. She spent five years earning her bachelor's degree, but when she left high school, Cowan didn't know what interested her or what she excelled at. "It wasn't until I was in sociology," she says, "that I discovered some really different and beautiful ways it was mind-blowing."

Even if you stretch programs, it is possible to graduate in four years—with a little help. For 2009 St. Francis Xavier graduate David Webb, it wasn't until the end of second year that he decided on a history degree, that's a year later than most universities recommend declaring a major. But because he had consulted with advisors from the beginning, he'd chosen courses that left doors open.

Like many students, Webb had to finance her own education, and financial realities often lead students to reduce course loads in order to work, which means staying in school longer. Webb instead stayed on the four-year schedule by taking on what the University of Toronto's *Maclean's* called "a decision she doesn't regret." She also found flexible, on-campus jobs, such as working for the athletics department and university newspaper. She took summer classes so that



THE BIG DAY: Taking time to volunteer, work or travel can enrich your academic experience.

she could work while enrolled part time in her final year.

But for some students, it makes sense to take longer. "Don't be negatively oriented to finishing in four years," Terrence advises, adding that stretching out a degree can enrich your life and your academics.

It was the intense pressure of having to take four semesters of six classes that led McGill engineering student Veronica Pachin

to slow things down, adding a semester to her program. Pachin, who expects to graduate in December 2019, says the decision to take her foot off the accelerator has been good for her sanity and her marks. "Since I started after that 11.11.91 [the September 11 attacks], I would have graduated at 21," she says. "So in a way, I'll have just turned 22. That doesn't seem too old to be starting the rest of my life." ■



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A LEAGUE of their own: The McGill Martlets are the best university women's hockey team in the country—and are likely to retain the title

THE WINNERS, THE LOSERS

An unscientific guide to the best and worst in university sports
BY NANCY MACDONALD

Top overall

The University of Western Ontario. Last year, the Mustangs won nine OUA (Ontario University Athletics) championships and both the men's and women's national rowing titles, and made it to the final in both football and men's basketball. The seedling in men's basketball? "There's a real sports culture at Western," says Rob Fitzgibbon, who runs about the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) league for the CIS flag—and plenty of jackalorns are willing to support the team, despite the purple jerseys.

Honorable mention: The UBC Thunderbirds—whose hockey teams now play out of an Olympic venue—have won back-to-back national titles in women's volleyball, three of the past six national championships in women's basketball and 12 of the past 14 national swimming championships. For the past four years, they have been ranked top 30 in basketball, volleyball, soccer, swimming and field hockey, and every couple of years pick up a national title in either soccer or men's volleyball. While other schools tend to dominate individual sports, UBC spreads its big sports budget widely. And, as a bonus, it's a university with a strong academic reputation, too.

Honorable mention: University of Alberta, whose men's and women's hockey and volleyball teams tend to dominate the Canada West division. Alberta, a midwestern powerhouse, has won national titles in every sport. It consistently fields a bad football

team, though—just a worse-up for the real sports, they say in Edmonton.

Top football

Laval University—no contest. Defending national champions the Rouge et Or have won five Vanier Cups in the last 10 years. Laval boasts 12,000 fans per game at PEPS stadium, which recently underwent a \$2.9-million retrofit. Why are its fans, by comparison, down to 1,000 to see Lacrosse games? (The program, overseen by ultra-successful head coach Glen Cossentino, is first with cash, and is treated like a pro franchise. It has invested in full-time assistant coaches, with an assistant board made up of Quebec business people, and the team goes to Quebec for training camp.)

Top men's hockey

In Canada, university hockey plays second

edge to junior leagues, but the University of New Brunswick's Varsity Reds, who have claimed the last three national championships, have a stellar program. Last season, they beat reigning NCAA champion Boston College, whose lineup dominated in NHL draft choice. UNB student Rob Fitzgibbon, the Varsity Reds' all-time points leader, made the unlikely leap from CIS (Canadian Interuniversity Sports) to the NHL, signing a contract with the New York Islanders in 1998.

Top women's hockey

Back-to-back CIS national champs, the McGill Martlets—who haven't lost a game in almost two years, dating back to a 3-1 shootout loss in Alberta on Dec. 30, 2007—use the rising women's hockey powerhouse. Goaltender Charlotte Labrecque and defenceman Catherine Ward both play for the women's national team. Martlets head coach Peter Smith is a assistant coach of the Olympic national team (previously head coach of the under-21 women's national team).

Expect McGill's dominance to continue. Two years ago, the team received a landmark \$1-million donation—the biggest ever to a university women's sports program in Canada. It's a big fish, and has a strong coach with an eye on the country's top young talent. Smith's recruiting job isn't difficult: The appeal of playing for a winning team while surrounded by everything a McGill education and downtown Montreal has to offer is tough to turn down.

Top men's basketball

No question, the title belongs to defending national champions the Calicut Braves, who have won six of the last seven national championships—and the one year they didn't win, they were knocked out in double overtime in the semifinal. Coach Dave Stuart, who runs CIS star himself—he led the squad to an 87-game regular-season and playoff winning streak from 2003 to 2006—leads the defence first, allow the game down to one-point possessions. He's the top coach in the league. "They weren't on the map before Stuart got there," says CIS sports blogger Steve Sager. "They gave him a lot of latitude to run the team and he built a very aggressive program." Once it started winning titles, all the top recruits wanted to join Clarke. This fall, the Braves went 3-1 against NCAA Division I opponents in pre-season play.

Top women's basketball

The James Fraser University Glens, which have won four of the last eight national titles. For a decade, women's basketball has been an SFU (University of British Columbia) sport, but the SFU (University of British Columbia) is the NCAA, and season. In fact, women's basketball is dominated by the West. (There hasn't been a national champion from east

of Manitoba in 15 years.) SFU is one of the only schools where the women's team plays after the men's team—the program is that popular, and has that rich prestige.

Top rivalry

St. Mary's versus St. FX. Battle of the Saints. These Catholic schools, with strong sports

Worst team name

The Gee-Gee's—which, according to University of Ottawa lore, is either the lead horse at a horse race or stands for the school emblem, griffin and grey. Better yet, the name works. **Honorable mention:** The Whizzing Wrennies, for being single gender in 2009—yep.



THAT'S SPIRIT: The jerseys of St. FX (here, in basketball) look a little rivalry with St. Mary's



PRACTICE makes perfect: Taking a break at Marquette practice, St. FX's SIFX basketball team

programs and long histories, have a game the dislike for one another, says Monte Mosier, sports reporter for the Halifax Chronicle Herald. There is a city-country element [the Halifax represent Halifax, the regional hub—"the city doesn't own the drink," says Sager—while the X Men are way out there in... Antigonish], but the larger issue is that they are frequently the two best athletic programs across the board in the region and go nose to nose in everything from basketball and football to lacrosse and cross country, says Mosier. You don't see any where else this kind of passion for inter-city sports in Vancouver or Toronto.

the women's teams would be the name. "While we're on it, what is a 'wrennie'? The school is neither located in the west of the province nor of the country.

Honorable mention: The Cape Breton Capers, who clearly didn't even try. Makes Fredericton's St. Thomas Tommies sound inspired.

Punches above its weight

Toronto Western University Seaside athletes as the first, provide Christian school in Langley, B.C., might not be allowed to reach PG-13 status, but they're well on their way to taking the school into a sports powerhouse. The men's and women's soccer teams are

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both ranked No. 1 nationally. The volleyball teams are usually strong contenders despite playing in the stacked Canada West conference. And the men's basketball team has earned ranking in top circles, including R.C.'s top high schooler. Basketball coach Scott Allen comes to Trinity Western after 15 years at Surrey's White Rock Christian Academy, and is repeating the winning formula: buy

football and basketball players, and convert several Catholic students and Alexander Tools facilities aside, the school's quiet quest to become an athletic power was given a shot in the arm with the appointment of former CFL president Jeff Gies to the role of director of athletics and recreation. Gies is thought to have the wherewithal to funnel more money to the sports programs.



WORKING OUT at the University of Alberta, among the West's best, despite a walled stadium



RUGBY AT QUINCY, soccer at Mount Allison. In Alberta, Canada, crowds are big and loud



developed there. Within five years, the school will give UBC a run for the top in Western Canada, predicts Jason McElroy, spokesman for the Olympic UBC's school newspaper.

Top spirit/blind arrogance

Anything in Alberta, Canada. Three fans are wild, loud, visible and into it, both at home and away.

Top facilities

B.C. Lions owner David Briley donated \$1 million to Hamilton's McMaster University, which helped fund a new sports complex. It bears the name of the former Marauders var-

Strangest program

The University of Alberta, Augustines cross gym in Camrose, Alta. (once its own private university), welcome to the country's greatest hockey program—yes, the sport that tests your ability to cross-country ski and fire a rifle. The school has produced a number of Olympic stars. It might also house the country's only bullfight program.

Highest-paid coach

Probably Glen Scottman, head coach of the Rouge at Orillia football club, who is rumored to make in the range of \$125,000 to \$150,000.

For comparison, last season Shannon Miller, the head coach of the University of Minnesota Duluth women's hockey team, made \$150,000. John Calipari, head coach of the University of Kentucky men's basketball team, recently inked an eight-year contract worth US\$14.61 million. And Kansas University men's basketball coach Bill Self is making US\$7 million a year for the next 10 years.

Most Nobel laureates, worst athletes

The University of Toronto

Worst facilities

Affectionately known as the "Gritty Gracie," the University of Manitoba's old-school complex, which probably hasn't changed since the Confederation, is located in the windy wind-up basement of the Frank Kennedy athletic centre, and has a Gritty Gracie smell—a mix of rubber, dust and sweat.

Honorable mention: Despite a top 30 nationwide ranking, Waterloo's indoor arena is cramped, uncomfortable, and far too cold, says *CH Mag* sports writer Rob Perttunen.

Honorable mention: UBC's basketball team "frequently plays out of an old high school gym," says McElroy.

Honorable mention: The University of Alberta's "Barnardine," also known as the Unrenowned Pavilion, is shaped like a black of beer and painted burnt yellow. (Inside the field house, the facilities aren't bad.)

Hireability, post-grad

McGill University. "It's got cash, baby. It's got cash up the ying-yang." That's a pack, one day, your five years of eligibility will expire. When it does, you'll have to hit the pavement like the rest of us.

The longest journey to the CIS

St. Flx, which has signed Barry Nix, one of Sudan's so-called "Lost Boys," who left the war-ravaged country with his sister at age 11. At seven feet two, Barry will be the tallest player in the CIS this season. (See full story on page 114.)

Honorable mention: Windsor, which has signed Du'haan Thomas, one of the most talked-about rookie football players in the Canadian university game. Thomas, a standout U.S. high school player, made it onto the Toronto Argonaut roster before being released last spring. At 21, he is starting with the Windsor Mustangs. (The NCAA doesn't allow intercollegiate professional sports exposure to play in the college league.) Greg Marshall, head coach of the Mustangs, Egerton DeWitts has the tools to eventually make it to the NFL. ■



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A HOME HERE

Riiny Ngot's incredible journey from war-torn Sudan to St. FX

BY NANCY MACDONALD • When are you going? Riiny Ngot admits thinking to himself about 45 minutes into the two-hour drive from the Malabar airport to St. Francis Xavier University, his actual Nova Scotia home for the next three years. We're in the middle of nowhere.

Domestic change, however, has long been a fact of life for the towering 11-year-old basketball centre, who began his career in the CIS, the Canadian university league, if in full Riiny, who is seven foot two—a foot taller than the team average, and the tallest player in the



league—is also part of a remarkable group of refugees. They are known as the Lost Boys of Sudan. Starting in the late 1980s, some 25,000 children who had been orphaned or separated from their parents crossed the country seeking refuge from Sudan's raging civil war. That conflict—one of the last century's most brutal—pitted the northern Muslim government against the mostly Christian south, and ultimately claimed two million lives.

Psychologists who documented the Lost Boys' exposure to death and violence place them among the most badly war-torn-minded children ever examined. For Riiny, who is gentle and soft-spoken, the white scars on his legs and arms are only the physical evidence of the war. He admits, all the time, for the family it took from him.

When Riiny was 11, fighting exploded inside southern city of Wau, where he grew up. He was nearby, at his grandparents' home tending to a newborn calf, and he ran home, passing scores of dead and wounded, to find his house on flames. Amid the rubble of gunfire, he could hear Aboud, his eight-year-old sister, screaming from inside. Tearing through the house, he found her hidden in a closet. They escaped just before their home collapsed.

There was no sign of their parents, so they left Wau, crossing the country's war-ravaged southern flank and joining other children who were fleeing the fighting. They travelled under cover of darkness—and not just to escape the 40-degree heat. Almost anyone they encountered—government troops, rebel soldiers or militia forces—was a likely threat. Aboud could have been enslaved or forced to become a rebel wife, while Riiny, who already stood six feet three, was ripe for

recruitment by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army. (Thousands of children also died from starvation, dehydration, animal attacks and disease.)

For most of the month-long journey, Riiny carried Aboud, whom he frightened and died. When it came to crossing the now-swollen Gillo River to safety in Ethiopia, he tied her to his back using a T-shirt, and dove deep to avoid the river's strong top currents. As they surfaced, Riiny heard his best friend, who had been overwatching with them, screaming as terror hit him being attacked by a crocodile. Hundreds died that day, lost to internal attack and drowning, says Riiny. Others remember the river streaked with red.

NGOT in action and on campus. At 11, he and his sister fled Sudan to escape violence.

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After four years at the Kalamazoo College Camp in Kenya, Biny and his inner left for Calgary, land of house and darkness. As uncle they had never met had spent several times Biny was 16 and Alton, 12.

Biny, who couldn't speak any English, entered Grade 10 at St. Mary's High School, at night, he spent hours at the local library, reading kids' books to try to catch up. Some after arriving at St. Mary's, he "popped his head" into basketball coach Kevin Johnson's campers class — "this big, tall kid, who couldn't have weighed more than 160 lb.," recalls Johnson, who recruited him to the team. Somehow, Biny—who only had undeveloped his size 17 feet into size 12 shoes for basketball practice by the end of the hour, he could barely walk. Still, now, he was as tough as they come. The ball slipped through his hands, he was clumsy, and he didn't know the crowd rule. But he had desire and coachability, and spent hours catching bounce passes and finishing his shot. And, of course, when he stood beneath the hoop, he could almost touch the rim. On defense, his wing span was so big they called him "Albatross." The next season, with Biny at center, his team won the city championships.

Off the court, however, he was having serious problems: he wasn't used to eating com-



HITTING the books: Minute Ball is his cousin

plex parts and so much meat, and every day brought a humbling new lesson, how to eat spaghetti with a fork, how to use showers, even opener, a washing machine, a car! Still, keeping Biny to school was never a problem. "One day he was sick, then a dog, and I had to say to him, 'hardly 'You need to be home,'" John was adamant. "I can't miss school!" Biny replied. He was focused on getting to university basketball, he knew, was his ticket.

After high school, Biny spent two seasons at U.S. junior college. NCAA Division I coaches wanted him, but lower-than hoped for SAT scores and recent visa problems caused him to look north. As soon as basketball legend Steve Nash called, former coach of the team's national squad, got word of it, he recruited Biny to the X-Men, his team of 35 years.

Biny, who now speaks perfect English (pronouncing his teammates' "X-Men" as "gah nah")—like a local still dreams of making the big leagues like his cousin, NBA star Minute Ball. But he has other dreams, too—like working for the United Nations when he graduates from St. FX (Alton, still in Calgary, is hoping to become a nurse, and has a partner and a baby).

There is one thing, however, that Biny won't miss of all: five years ago, by accident, a friend of his father's suggested him at a Salween gathering in Calgary. That night, Biny, who hadn't seen his parents, Mawaa and Yaa, since the attack on Wau, not only learned that they were alive but, within minutes, was speaking to his mom over the phone. One day, Biny hopes to be able to afford to visit them in Africa.

"I'm not a Lost Boy anymore," Biny says, his voice finally and open. "I'm not worried about anything anymore." Canada, he adds, is home. ■



WITH COACH Guadalupe, when he came to Canada, Biny had no skills, but he had desire—not just to play basketball, but to succeed in life

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GEORGE BROWN gets you the job.

9 out of 10 grads are hired within 6 months.

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LET'S EAT: High Table dinner at U of T's Trinity College offers students an opportunity to socialize. What else can you find at university?

UNIVERSITIES BY THE NUMBERS

What students think, what the experts say, and what the hard data tell about 48 Canadian universities

THE FOLLOWING FACTS offer a wealth of information to help students prepare for one of life's most important decisions: choosing a university. Our coverage begins with all the numbers behind the 19th annual Maclean's University Rankings. Focusing on the quality of the undergraduate experience, the rankings cover a broad spectrum, assessing university performance on 14 indicators across six major areas: students and classes, faculty, resources, student support, library and reputation. All the data is presented here, broken out chart by chart.

We begin with four significant measures evaluating student and faculty quality: the success of students and faculty in winning national and international awards, as well as the faculty's record in receiving research grants from the three federal granting agencies. Also listed are the numbers on student-faculty ratios—an indicator of what kind of access

students can expect to their professors. We follow with data on budgetary resources and money available for research, spending on student services, scholarships and bursaries, as well as spending on libraries.

Next up is Maclean's reputational survey. Gathering the points of view of nearly 300 university officials, high school principals and guidance counsellors from every province and territory, the heads of a wide variety of national and regional organizations, plus CEOs and recruiters at corporations large and small. Maclean's approached these individuals because their professions put them in a position to form opinions about how well universities are meeting the needs of students and producing quality graduates.

In addition to the ranking data, we provide additional information on grade averages, average class sizes, faculty, graduation and retention rates.

We follow with key feedback from people at the lower university students. They are asked to give judgment on their universities, based on the results. We present two comprehensive surveys of student satisfaction: the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium (CUSEC). Published here are responses to questions about the quality of teaching, the overall educational experience, and whether students would, if given the choice, attend their university again. As well, the NSSE results include five key benchmarks of effective educational practice.

Also included is a directory showing the locations of each student population at all 48 ranked Canadian universities, as well as a listing of undergraduate arts and science faculties from the country's best experience to the most.

A key part of Maclean's university coverage is the online Personalized University Ranking Tool. Users can go to maclean.ca/university and create their own customized evaluation of Canada's universities, using the same exclusive database of indicators behind the annual Maclean's rankings. This tool offers users the ability to select up to seven indicators, and then weight them according to their own preferences. In other words, potential students can create a university evaluation based solely on criteria that matter most to them. ■



IN THE GAME: UMSIC natural resources and environmental studies student, Jordan Kasperowicz

WHERE TOP STUDENTS GO

Tallying winners of graduate and undergraduate awards

STUDENTS AT CANADIAN universities are eligible for a wide range of prizes and awards that recognize outstanding potential and accomplishment, as well as in many cases providing some much needed cash—particularly for students wanting to pursue graduate and/or postgraduate studies. Here are those students and how well they prosper for the top prizes.

The success of student achievement is linked to the success of the student body in winning national and international academic awards over a five-year period. A list of 30 awards programs translates into 12,012 fellowships and prizes going to individual students over the course of 2005 through 2008. The list of prizes includes such prestigious awards as the Trudeau Scholarships, the Fulbright Awards, Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships, as well as scholarships from professional associations and the three federal granting agencies: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The basis of awards varies greatly. Through its scholarships, the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation promotes engineering achievement for women. The Canadian Northern Studies Trust provides scholarships to further knowledge of Canada's North. Awards from the Kenneth G. Ross Foundation, the British Council, the International Development Research Centre and the Rhodes Scholarships give international students the opportunity to study abroad.

Students may be awarded a scholarship as they begin a new degree at a new university. In such cases, Maclean's credits the university the institution that produced the award-winning student. Each university's total student awards is indicated by the number of full-time students, yielding a score of awards relative to each institution's size. ■

MACTEAMER (2008-2009) need money? Use the scholarship program at www.macteamer.ca/scholarship

Student Awards

The five-year tally (2004-2008) of the number of students, per 1,000, who have won national awards

MEDICAL DOCTORAL

1 McGill	10.9
2 Queen's	9.6
3 UBC	9
4 Dalhousie	8.1
5 Toronto	7.6
*6 Alberta	6.6
*6 Calgary	6.6
*6 McMaster	6.6
*9 Laval	5.9
*9 Ottawa	5.9
11 Montreal	5.7
12 Western	5
13 Sherbrooke	4.8
14 Manitoba	4.4
15 Saskatchewan	3.1

COMPREHENSIVE

1 Waterloo	7.3
2 Simon Fraser	7.1
3 New Brunswick	5.9
*4 Carleton	5.5
*4 Victoria	5.5
6 Guelph	4
7 Memorial	3
8 York	2.7
9 Concordia	2.6
10 Windsor	2.3
11 Regina	1.7

PRIMARILY UNDERGRADUATE

1 Mount Allison	8.9
2 Acadia	8.3
3 UNBC	8.1
4 UPEI	3.8
5 Saint Mary's	2.3
*6 Trent	2.2
*6 Winnipeg	2.2
8 St. Francis Xavier	2.1
9 Lakehead	2
*10 Bishop's	1.9
*10 Lethbridge	1.9
*12 Brandon	1.8
*12 Moncton	1.8
14 Laurentian	1.5
*15 Brock	1.4
*15 Mount Saint Vincent	1.4
*15 Wilfrid Laurier	1.4
18 Nipissing	1.1
19 Cape Breton	1
20 UOIT	0.8
21 Ryerson	0.7
22 St. Thomas	0.3

*Tied for a tie. Full description of the methodology page 12



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS: One-on-one session from the prof in a class at Lakeshore

STUDENTS/CLASSES

Faculty members are the linchpin of a university's operations. Students look to professors not only for knowledge and mastery of a discipline, but for guidance and mentorship. Maclean's calculates the student/faculty ratio as a measure of student access to full-time faculty.

Student/Faculty Ratio

Maclean's measures the number of full-time equivalent students per full-time faculty member. Figures below reflect the ratio for all students, graduate as well as undergrad.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL		9 Guelph	26.6
	Ratio	10 Concordia	26.9
1 Dalhousie	13	11 York	21.3
2 Calgary	15.2	PRIMARILY UNDERGRADUATE	
3 Saskatchewan	58.9	1 Brandon	12.5
4 UBC	16.2	2 Marquette	14.6
5 McGill	16.8	3 St. Francis Xavier	14.0
6 Sherbrooke	16.5	4 Acadia	14.9
7 Monash	19.8	5 Mount Allison	15.3
8 McMaster	19.5	6 UPEI	18.6
9 Laval	20.9	7 Bishop's	16.2
10 Western	21.6	8 UNBC	16.6
11 Queen's	22.1	9 Laurentian	16.9
12 Alberta	22.9	10 Lethbridge	17.4
13 Manitoba	23.2	11 Mount Saint Vincent	19.9
14 Toronto	25.7	12 St. Thomas	22.8
15 Ottawa	26.3	*13 Cape Breton	23.0
COMPREHENSIVE		*13 Winnipeg	23.8
1 New Brunswick	17	15 Lakehead	24.6
2 Memorial	17.2	16 Brock	25.5
3 Victoria	19.1	17 Trent	25.6
4 Regina	19.8	18 Wilfrid Laurier	26.7
5 Simon Fraser	20.1	19 Saint Mary's	27.3
6 Windsor	23.6	20 Ryerson	32.2
7 Carleton	25.8	21 Nipissing	37.6
8 Waterloo	26	22 UOIT	39.6

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IN ACTION (clockwise from top left) McGill's "biohub" in UOEA, Professors Margaret Somerville, UBC's Lauren Dong, Georgia's Steve Lyons

TOP PROFESSORS

Three measures of strength point to the nation's best faculties

A UNIVERSITY'S STRENGTH is built on faculty. Strong professors inspire, as well as instruct, their students. And most universi- ties seek to balance two important roles: teaching and research. Which universities get top marks is measured by the three perfor- mance indicators Maclean's uses to assess the calibre of faculty.

Each year, Maclean's collects information on more than 40 national and international awards from agencies and organizations that honour and reward faculty excellence in aca-

demic research. Some, such as the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education—through its SM Teaching Fellow- ship, Alan Wilford and Christopher Krupper awards—recognize the importance of univer- sity teaching. Others, such as the distinguished Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council's Gerhard Meisinger Gold Medal, the Canada Council for the Arts Molson and Kill- ings prizes, and the Social Sciences and Human- ities Research Council's Gold Medal for Achieve- ment in Research, reward and foster outstanding research with generous cash prizes. NSERC's Fleming Medal guarantees the winner \$1 million in research funding over five years. Other prestigious awards include the Royal Society of Canada awards,

the Steele prize, the Fulbright awards and the Guggenheim fellowships.

As another measure of faculty strength, Maclean's combines the success of full-time professors in securing peer-reviewed research grants from each of the three major federal granting agencies: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Re- search Council of Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Maclean's tries to account both the number and the dis- tributive record. (These research figures do not include funding for the Canada Research Chairs program, individual or institutional grants.) Grants are reported based on awards to the primary investigator. ■

Faculty Awards

The five-year tally (2004-2008) of the number of full-time professors per 1,000, who have won national awards

MEDICAL DOCTORAL

1	Queen's	10.8
2	McGill	10
3	Toronto	9.5
4	UBC	8.1
5	Alberta	7.5
6	Ottawa	7.1
7	McMaster	5.3
8	Montreal	5.2
9	Dalhousie	4.4
10	Western	3.6
11	Calgary	3.2
12	Laval	2.3
13	Saskatchewan	2.1
14	Manitoba	1.8
15	Steenhouse	1.3

COMPREHENSIVE

1	Simon Fraser	6.5
2	Waterloo	5.4
3	Victoria	4.6
4	York	2.9
5	Carleton	2.8
6	Guelph	2.6
7	New Brunswick	2.6
8	Memorial	2.5
9	Windsor	2.3
10	Concordia	1.8
11	Regina	0.8

PROBABLY UNDERGRADUATE

1	Thompson	4.7
2	Mount Allison	4.4
3	UNBC	4.4
4	Wilfrid Laurier	3.4
5	Mount Saint Vincent	2.7
6	Saint Mary's	2.5
7	Lethbridge	2
8	St. Thomas	1.8
9	Acadia	1.8
10	Bishop's	1.7
11	St. Francis Xavier	1.5
12	Brimley	1.3
13	Brack	1.1
14	Laurentian	1
15	UPED	0.9
16	Lakehead	0.7
17	Moncton	0.6
18	Ryerson	0.3

PROBABLY UNDERGRADUATE

1	UCIT	10.306	17.95
2	Lakehead	6.291	15.09
3	Saint Mary's	5.296	13.23
4	UNBC	5.328	12.96
5	Mount Saint Vincent	6.267	5.77
6	Wilfrid Laurier	3.953	13.24
7	Windsor	2.854	12.67
8	Ryerson	3.753	9.79
9	Brack	2.894	10.96
10	Brack	2.495	12.08
11	UPED	3.211	9.58
12	St. Francis Xavier	2.958	8.81
13	Moncton	2.247	6.06
14	Brimley	3.735	3.13
15	Lethbridge	1.973	5.75
16	Acadia	1.811	5.67
17	St. Thomas	1.305	4.34
18	Mount Allison	8.79	5.65
19	Norquest	1.125	4.27
20	Laurier	8.68	3.83
21	Cape Breton	5.93	3.38
22	Bishop's	3.44	2.55

Universities with full description of the methods (p. 10)

The tables are compiled from reporting information by the 100+ professors in a list of all awards programs. Award winners are ranked on the receiving colleges.

Social Sciences and Humanities Grants

Based on the average size and number of peer-reviewed research grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The size of grants is listed per full-time faculty member; the number of grants is per 100 full-time faculty members. The ranking reflects a weighted average of the two.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL

1	McGill	\$13,793	37.78
2	Toronto	11,105	21.24
3	UBC	10,925	31.06
4	Laval	12,351	34.49
5	Ottawa	11,146	26.81
6	Montreal	10,411	27.22
7	Alberta	11,219	24
8	McMaster	8,916	24.12
9	Queens	7,816	21.85
10	Western	8,329	20
11	Manitoba	6,928	13.42
12	Dalhousie	6,557	14.02
13	Calgary	5,385	15.93
14	Saskatchewan	4,100	12.16
15	Saskatchewan	4,234	10.94

COMPREHENSIVE

1	Windsor	\$11,250	22.22
2	Simon Fraser	8,556	24.24
3	Concordia	7,057	22.95
4	Guelph	8,332	14.98
5	Victoria	6,529	18.33
6	Carleton	6,158	18.02
7	York	6,040	15.37
8	New Brunswick	6,008	12.32
9	Windsor	6,015	9.84
10	Memorial	4,977	13.94
11	Regina	3,835	6.76

PROBABLY UNDERGRADUATE

1	UCIT	10.306	17.95
2	Lakehead	6.291	15.09
3	Saint Mary's	5.296	13.23
4	UNBC	5.328	12.96
5	Mount Saint Vincent	6.267	5.77
6	Wilfrid Laurier	3.953	13.24
7	Windsor	2.854	12.67
8	Ryerson	3.753	9.79
9	Brack	2.894	10.96
10	Brack	2.495	12.08
11	UPED	3.211	9.58
12	St. Francis Xavier	2.958	8.81
13	Moncton	2.247	6.06
14	Brimley	3.735	3.13
15	Lethbridge	1.973	5.75
16	Acadia	1.811	5.67
17	St. Thomas	1.305	4.34
18	Mount Allison	8.79	5.65
19	Norquest	1.125	4.27
20	Laurier	8.68	3.83
21	Cape Breton	5.93	3.38
22	Bishop's	3.44	2.55

Medical/Science Grants

Here are the average size and number of peer-reviewed research grants from both the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The size of grants is listed per full-time faculty member; the number of grants is per 100 full-time faculty members. The ranking reflects a weighted average of the two.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL

1	Toronto	\$108,990	197.45
2	Ottawa	164,857	188.89
3	McGill	134,221	182.43
4	Queens	130,420	156.42
5	Alberta	105,308	142.42
6	UBC	117,455	135.19
7	Western	159,413	130.09
8	Laval	90,918	122.18
9	Windsor	75,927	127.9
10	McMaster	86,245	94.3
11	Calgary	65,479	98.25
12	Montreal	66,988	82.63
13	Dalhousie	52,048	67.16
14	Saskatchewan	61,529	75.08
15	Steenhouse	50,383	64.18

COMPREHENSIVE

1	Simon Fraser	\$120,100	187.5
2	Victoria	102,156	179.97
3	Waterloo	77,470	134.29
4	Carleton	61,084	135.25
5	Windsor	75,474	106.11
6	Guelph	75,195	100.91
7	York	61,515	121.81
8	Concordia	53,292	114.77
9	Regina	41,287	101.75
10	New Brunswick	38,790	83.84
11	Memorial	29,083	63.66

PROBABLY UNDERGRADUATE

1	Thompson	\$72,919	158.52
2	Lethbridge	59,709	139.39
3	Wilfrid Laurier	47,385	113.56
4	UCIT	53,089	137.25
5	Brack	36,481	105.88
6	Saint Mary's	36,673	103.92
7	UNBC	36,793	91.3
8	Mount Allison	33,338	93.96
9	Lakehead	32,642	84.26
10	Windsor	29,732	97.42
11	Acadia	21,713	86.36
12	Laurentian	26,921	69.05
13	Ryerson	23,213	86.2
14	McGill	11,964	73.33
15	UPED	16,499	42.34
16	Cape Breton	12,689	50
17	St. Francis Xavier	14,767	44.44
18	Bishop's	13,015	33.33
19	Brimley	5,492	33.33
20	Moncton	8,525	32.56
21	Mount Saint Vincent	8,258	33.33
22	St. Thomas	N/A	N/A

RESOURCES

The financial resources at a university's disposal have an impact on its ability to provide students with educational opportunities, including the opportunity to conduct research. Maclean's measures the size of the operating budget per weighted full-time-equivalent student, as well as the amount of money available to faculty for research.

Operating Budget

Operating expenditures per weighted full-time equivalent student

MEDICAL DOCTORAL	
1 Queen's	\$18,642
2 Calgary	13,486
3 Saskatchewan	12,152
4 Alberta	12,489
5 Dalhousie	11,727
6 Western	11,139
7 Manitoba	10,865
8 McMaster	10,814
9 McGill	10,651
10 UBC	10,578
11 Toronto	10,548
12 Ottawa	9,272
13 Montreal	9,253
14 Laval	8,947
15 Sherbrooke	8,900

COMPREHENSIVE	
1 Memorial	\$13,850
2 Simon Fraser	13,348
3 Windsor	12,568
4 Victoria	11,957
5 Regina	11,881
6 New Brunswick	11,759
7 York	11,178
8 Guelph	10,319
9 Concordia	9,002
10 Carleton	8,968
11 Waterloo	8,323

PRIMARY UNDERGRADUATE	
1 Brock	\$16,772
2 Bahg's	16,390
3 Acadia	14,718
4 Mount Allison	15,004
5 Laurier	13,846
6 UNBC	13,862
7 UNMC	12,685
8 Lethbridge	12,587
9 UOIT	12,344
10 Winnipeg	11,770
11 Marquette	11,626
12 Trent	11,139
13 Ryerson	11,085
14 Lakehead	10,999
15 St. Francis Xavier	10,872
16 Saint Mary's	10,667
17 Mount Saint Vincent	10,447
18 Niagara	10,172
19 Wilfrid Laurier	9,827
20 Brock	9,783
21 St. Thomas	9,767
22 Cape Breton	9,008

Total Research Dollars

These figures show total income from sponsored research divided by the number of full-time faculty. Research dollars include grants and contracts, federal, provincial and foreign government funding, as well as funding from non-governmental organizations

MEDICAL DOCTORAL	
1 Toronto	\$350,481
2 Alberta	339,771
3 McMaster	317,438
4 McGill	308,881
5 Montreal	266,885
6 Queen's	236,780
7 Ottawa	223,081
8 USC	216,159
9 Laval	207,771
10 Saskatchewan	199,234
11 Western	166,544
12 Calgary	164,070
13 Manitoba	150,859
14 Dalhousie	135,832
15 Sherbrooke	99,735

COMPREHENSIVE	
1 Guelph	\$185,081
2 Victoria	167,285
3 Waterloo	163,786
4 Carleton	132,886
5 Simon Fraser	112,941
6 New Brunswick	82,999
7 Memorial	79,912
8 Windsor	55,386



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES: Guelph student tests conditions for a greenhouse on Plan

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—Adam Karyshok, MD '06
Toronto
Surgery Resident



"I am who I am today because of Ross University. I'm a doctor. I achieved the residency I wanted, and I made friends for a lifetime."

—Paula Petras, MD '17
Chicago
Pediatric Resident



"I learned an appreciation for veterinary medicine and have been inspired every day to be the best I can be."

—Krista Kish, DVM '11
San Diego
Small Animal Surgeon



"Ross gave me the opportunity to pursue the profession I have always dreamed of. It was an experience I'll never forget."

—Michael Higgins, DVM '11
Vancouver
Veterinary Neurologist



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STUDENT SUPPORT

The university experience should be more than just an education. Students need financial aid, as well as a variety of services and extracurricular opportunities. In these measures of student support, Maclean's examines the percentage of the operating budget devoted to student services and to scholarships and bursaries.

Scholarships & Bursaries

Percentage of total operating expenditures devoted to scholarships and bursaries

MEDICAL DOCTORAL			
	Per cent		
1 Ottawa	13.8	9 Memorial	6.2
2 Queen's	11	10 Concordia	4.5
3 McGill	10.8	11 Nova Brunswick	3.1
4 Dalhousie	10.1	PRIMARILY UNDERGRADUATE	
5 Western	10	12 York	5.9
6 Toronto	9.8	2 Lakehead	7.6
7 Alberta	9.3	3 St. Thomas	7
8 McMaster	8.2	4 Wilfrid Laurier	6.8
9 Laval	7.9	15 Brock	6.5
10 UBC	7.7	16 Laurentian	6.5
11 Calgary	7.5	17 Acadia	5.9
12 Montreal	7.2	18 Mount Allison	5.5
13 Saskatchewan	7.2	19 St. Francis Xavier	5.5
14 Manitoba	4.7	20 Saint Mary's	5.5
15 Sherbrooke	3.7	11 Niagara	4.9
COMPREHENSIVE		12 UPEI	4.7
1 Waterloo	12.2	13 Marston	4.3
2 Carleton	10.1	14 Lethbridge	4
3 Victoria	9.1	15 Mount Saint Vincent	4
4 York	8.1	16 Ryerson	4
5 Regina	7.3	17 UNBC	3.9
6 Quebec	7.2	18 Winnipeg	3.2
7 Simon Fraser	6.9	19 Bishop's	2.9
8 Windsor	6.7	20 Cape Breton	2.8
		21 Brandon	2.7
		22 UOIT	2.5



BEYOND THE CLASS: The University of Victoria's field hockey squad gets set for action

Student Services

Percentage of total operating expenditures devoted to student services

MEDICAL DOCTORAL			
	Per cent		
1 Calgary	9.5		
2 Sherbrooke	5.1		
3 Manitoba	5		
4 Ottawa	4.5		
16 McMaster	3.4		
19 Western	2.9		
17 Dalhousie	2.5		
17 Laval	1.5		
9 Toronto	1.2		
10 Saskatchewan	1.1		
11 Queen's	1		
12 McGill	1		
13 Alberta	1		
14 Montreal	2.6		
15 UBC	2.4		
COMPREHENSIVE			
1 York	7		
2 Windsor	6.8		
3 Simon Fraser	6.7		
4 Quebec	5.5		
5 Victoria	5.1		
6 Carleton	4.7		
7 New Brunswick	3.9		
8 Concordia	3.7		
19 Memorial	3.4		
19 Waterloo	3.4		
11 Regina	3		
PRIMARILY UNDERGRADUATE			
1 UOIT	10.1		
2 St. Thomas	9.8		
3 Winnipeg	7.6		
4 Brock	7.1		
5 Brandon	6.9		
6 Saint Mary's	6.6		
7 Trent	6.4		
8 Wilfrid Laurier	6		
19 Cape Breton	5.7		
19 Niagara	5.7		
11 Acadia	5.4		
11 Beloit	5.4		
13 St. Francis Xavier	5.1		
14 UNBC	4.8		
15 Mount Allison	4.5		
16 Brock	4.1		
17 Laurentian	4		
13 Lethbridge	4		
19 Mount Saint Vincent	3.9		
20 Ryerson	3.8		
12 Lakehead	3.2		
12 UPEI	2.6		

PHOTOGRAPH BY GREGORY S. LEE

Dream Big

WALL ST WALL ST

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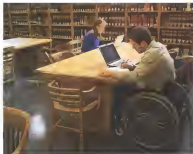
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LIBRARY

Maclean's measures the percentage of the operating budget committed to library funding, as well as the collection's size and currency. Given the shift from a traditional model—books on shelves—to an electronic access model, Maclean's captures spending on electronic resources in both library expenses and acquisitions.



OLD AND NEW: From books on shelves to laptops on desks, libraries keep evolving

Expenses

A measure of financial commitment, this indicator shows the percentage of the university budget devoted to maintaining library services.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL	
	Percent
1 Toronto	6.2
2 Manitoba	6
3 McGill	5.7
4 Saskatchewan	5.5
5 Alberta	5.3
6 Level	5.1
7 Calgary	4.9
10 Montreal	4.6
16 Ottawa	4.6
50 Queens	4.4
11 Dalhousie	4.3
11 McMaster	4.3
12 Western	4.1
14 St. Francis Xavier	3.6
15 UBC	3.6

COMPREHENSIVE	
1 New Brunswick	6.6
2 Simon Fraser	6.3
3 Memorial	5.6
4 Victoria	5.7
5 Carleton	5.4
6 Regina	5.2
7 Windsor	5
8 Concordia	4.4
9 York	4.2
10 Waterloo	4
11 Guelph	3.7

PRIMARILY UNDERGRADUATE	
1 UOIT	50.7
2 Babcock	51.6
3 Lakehead	46.8
4 Brandon	42.1
5 UNBC	39.2
6 St. Francis Xavier	39.2
7 Winnipeg	38.9
8 Ryerson	38.7
9 St. Thomas	37.9
10 Laurentian	37.2
10 Wilfrid Laurier	37.2
12 Acadia	36.1
13 Mount Saint Vincent	25.8
14 Lethbridge	34.7
15 Brock	34.2
16 Cape Breton	33.5
17 UPEI	31.5
18 Saint Mary's	31.3
19 Trent	30.6
20 Mount Allison	29.6
21 Brandon	29.4
22 Nipissing	19.1

Acquisitions

To gauge the currency of resources, Maclean's measures the proportion of the library budget allocated to updating the university's collections, including electronic access.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL	
	Percent
1 Ottawa	55.5
2 UBC	53.2
3 Western	52
4 Queen's	50.2
5 Sherbrooke	48.3
16 Level	46
10 McMaster	46
8 Calgary	46
9 Dalhousie	45.6
11 McGill	45.1
120 Toronto	45.1
12 Saskatchewan	43.5
13 Alberta	39.9
14 Manitoba	34.6
15 Montreal	31.7

COMPREHENSIVE	
1 Simon Fraser	52.9
2 Victoria	65.9
3 Guelph	47.2
4 Windsor	46.1
5 York	42.4
6 Waterloo	41.1
7 New Brunswick	37.9
8 Regina	37.3

Holdings per Student

These figures show the number of volumes in campus libraries, divided by the number of full-time equivalent students.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL	
1 Queen's	255
2 Alberta	299
3 Saskatchewan	275
4 UBC	245
5 Toronto	220
6 Calgary	219
7 Western	192
8 McGill	177
9 Dalhousie	171
10 Ottawa	134
11 Level	133
11 Manitoba	123
13 McMaster	122
14 Sherbrooke	118
15 Montreal	95

COMPREHENSIVE	
1 New Brunswick	275
2 Memorial	259
3 Windsor	250
4 Victoria	247
5 Regina	194
6 Concordia	182
7 Guelph	158
8 Simon Fraser	140
9 Carleton	136

PRIMARILY UNDERGRADUATE	
1 Brandon	172
2 Mount Allison	476
3 Moncton	299
4 St. Thomas	295
5 Mount Saint Vincent	240
6 Acadia	230
7 Babcock	231
8 UPEI	199
9 Lakehead	185
10 Lethbridge	183
11 Laurentian	141
12 Saint Mary's	130
13 Wilfrid Laurier	126
14 St. Francis Xavier	126
15 Trent	117
16 Cape Breton	100
17 Nipissing	101
18 Brock	97
19 UNBC	86
20 Humber	73
21 Ryerson	58
22 UOIT	20

Total Library Holdings

This indicator measures total holdings in all campus libraries, acknowledging the importance of a extensive on-campus collections at Medical Doctoral universities.

MEDICAL DOCTORAL	
	In millions
1 Toronto	14,875
2 Alberta	10,173
3 UBC	9,535
4 Queen's	4.46
5 Western	\$,867
6 Calgary	5,316
7 McGill	4,922
8 Saskatchewan	4,449
9 Montreal	4,282
10 Ottawa	4,204
11 Level	3,823
12 Manitoba	3,104
13 McMaster	3,11
14 Dalhousie	2,248
15 Sherbrooke	1,792

*Numbers are for Full-time equivalent students age 18.

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BEST OVERALL: The University of Waterloo earned an on-top in Maclean's reputational survey, its strength in innovation and leadership.

THE BEST REPS

Movers and shakers in education rank universities on their performance

BY MARY DUTCH • University-bound students are keen to learn as much as possible before deciding which university to attend, quizzing those who may have an opinion worth listening to. Take those opinions and multiply them hundreds of times over and you have the idea behind Maclean's reputational survey. What do those whose passions put them in a position to form opinions—both about how well universities are keeping the needs of students and how ready their graduates are to embark on successful careers—really think?

To find out what the professionals think about the state of post-secondary education in Canada, Maclean's selected the opinion of nearly 12,000 individuals across the country, asking for their views on quality, innova-

tion and leadership at Canada's universities. Those surveyed included university officials at each ranked institution, high school principals and graduate associations from every province and territory, the heads of a wide variety of national and regional organizations, plus CEOs and managers at corporations large and small.

Respondents were asked to rate Canada's universities in three categories: Highest Quality, Most Innovative, and Leaders of Tomorrow. Best Overall represents the sum of the scores for all three categories. Again this year, the University of Waterloo placed first overall among all universities in the national reputational ranking, a position the school has successfully captured every year but three during the past 19 years of ranking. Meanwhile, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)—founded in 2003 and being ranked for the first time this year—made a strong showing for a young university, placing 39th overall.

The reputational survey has a regional as well as a national component that divides the country into four key areas: the western provinces, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces. All respondents completed a national survey, university officials, principals and guidance counsellors also completed regional ones, allowing them the opportunity to focus on the region they know best. The national and regional surveys are combined to produce the final results. The survey form reminds participants that Maclean's does not expect them to be familiar with every university, and that we are asking them to provide their views only on those universities about which they have an informed opinion.

The reputational survey achieved an overall response rate of 75 per cent. Broken out by group, the response rates were: 36.5 per cent for university officials, 4.9 per cent for high school principals and guidance counsellors, 6.5 per cent for CEOs, corporate managers and heads of organizations. ■

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NATIONAL REPUTATIONAL RANKING

Maclean's surveyed high school principals and guidance counsellors, university officials and heads of organizations, as well as CEOs and recruiters at corporations across the country, asking for their views on quality and innovation at Canadian universities. This chart displays the results of the reputational ranking, combining all the universities from the Primarily Undergraduate, Comprehensive and Medical Doctoral categories into one group.

BEST OVERALL

1. Waterloo
2. McGill
3. Alberta
4. Toronto
5. UBC
6. McMaster
7. Queen's
8. Western
9. Saskatchewan
10. Simon Fraser
11. Dalhousie
12. Laval
13. Victoria
14. Memorial
15. Ryerson
16. Calgary
17. Moncton
18. Wilfrid Laurier
19. St. Francis Xavier
20. Mount Allison
21. Ottawa
22. York
23. Carleton
24. Brock
25. UNBC
26. Nipissing
27. Brandon
28. Cape Breton
29. St. Thomas
30. UPEI
31. York
32. Trent
33. Mount Saint Vincent
34. York
35. St. Thomas
36. Trent
37. Mount Saint Vincent
38. York
39. St. Thomas
40. UNBC
41. Moncton
42. UOIT
43. Windsor
44. Brandon
45. Lakehead
46. Nipissing
47. Brandon
48. Cape Breton

HIGHEST QUALITY

1. McGill
2. Waterloo
3. Queen's
4. Toronto
5. McMaster
6. UBC
7. Alberta
8. Western
9. Dalhousie
10. Simon Fraser
11. St. Francis Xavier
12. Mount Allison
13. Saskatchewan
14. Victoria
15. Simon Fraser
16. Sherbrooke
17. Memorial
18. Moncton
19. Wilfrid Laurier
20. Laval
21. Acadia
22. Ottawa
23. Calgary
24. Ryerson
25. Manitoba
26. Concordia
27. New Brunswick
28. Lakehead
29. Regina
30. Winnipeg
31. York
32. Carleton
33. Brock
34. Bishop's
35. St. Thomas
36. UPEI
37. Mount Saint Vincent
38. York
39. Trent
40. UNBC
41. Moncton
42. UOIT
43. Windsor
44. Brandon
45. Lakehead
46. Nipissing
47. Brandon
48. Cape Breton

HOT INNOVATIVE

1. Waterloo
2. McGill
3. Alberta
4. McMaster
5. Toronto
6. UBC
7. Queen's
8. Saskatchewan
9. Western
10. Simon Fraser
11. Sherbrooke
12. Simon Fraser
13. Memorial
14. Dalhousie
15. Victoria
16. Ryerson
17. Laval
18. Calgary
19. Wilfrid Laurier
20. St. Francis Xavier
21. Acadia
22. Mount Allison
23. Ottawa
24. Moncton
25. Concordia
26. Manitoba
27. Winnipeg
28. UOIT
29. Lakehead
30. Regina
31. UNBC
32. Carleton
33. York
34. Carleton
35. Saint Mary's
36. New Brunswick
37. UPEI
38. Trent
39. St. Thomas
40. Bishop's
41. Windsor
42. Mount Saint Vincent
43. Lakehead
44. Brandon
45. Nipissing
46. Cape Breton
47. Brandon
48. Moncton

LEADERS OF TOMORROW

1. Waterloo
2. McGill
3. Alberta
4. UBC
5. Toronto
6. McMaster
7. Sherbrooke
8. Queen's
9. Saskatchewan
10. Simon Fraser
11. Laval
12. Simon Fraser
13. Calgary
14. Ryerson
15. Montreal
16. Western
17. Victoria
18. Ottawa
19. Dalhousie
20. Memorial
21. Manitoba
22. Winnipeg
23. Lethbridge
24. UOIT
25. Regina
26. UNBC
27. York
28. New Brunswick
29. Carleton
30. Brock
31. Brandon
32. UPEI
33. York
34. Trent
35. Cape Breton
36. Lethbridge
37. Saint Mary's
38. New Brunswick
39. Carleton
40. Brock
41. Brandon
42. UPEI
43. York
44. Trent
45. Cape Breton
46. Lethbridge
47. Saint Mary's
48. New Brunswick

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GRADES AND MORE

Grades are a strong indication of student quality and potential. Maclean's presents two measures of entering grades: the overall grade averages of incoming first-year students, and a breakdown by ranges. Other measures on the following pages include the percentage of first-year students who return for a second year, and the proportion who graduate in a reasonable time. As well, Maclean's measures average class sizes and the number of full-time faculty with a Ph.D., professional or terminal degree.

Average Entering Grade

Here are the average first-year grades of full-time, first-year students entering from a high school or Quebec's CEGEP system. Grades are for students entering university in their home province in fall 2008.

GRADE	AVG
BCGE	87.7%
Manitoba*	87.9%
Saskatchewan	87.7%
Quebec*	87.4%
Shenandoah*	86.9%
Dalhousie*	86.4%
Manitoba	86.4%
UBC*	86.3%
Waterloo	86.3%
Alberta	86.1%
Western*	86.0%
Manitoba	85.6%
Simon Fraser	85.4%
Regina	84.4%
McMaster*	81.3%
Acadia	84.1%
Yukon	81.1%
UPR*	83.9%
St. Francis Xavier	83.9%
Toronto*	83.7%
UNBC	83.6%
New Brunswick	83.4%
Calgary	83.1%
Mount Saint Vincent	82.9%
St. Thomas	82.8%
Wilfrid Laurier	82.1%
Cape Breton	81.8%
Durham	81.4%
York	81.4%
Ottawa	81.1%
Memorial	80.7%
Regina*	80.1%
St. Mary's	80.1%
Carleton*	80.0%
Winchester	79.2%
Winnipeg	79.2%
Lamontagne*	79.1%
Yukon*	79.0%
York*	78.8%
Wilfrid Laurier*	78.2%
Windsor	77.6%
UCPE*	76.8%

Grade Distribution

Below is a breakdown of average entering grades showing the percentage of students who entered with grades in each of the following ranges.

GRADE	75 TO 79.9%	70 TO 74.9%	65 TO 69.9%	60 TO 64.9%	55 TO 59.9%	50 TO 54.9%	45 TO 49.9%
Acadia	3.2	15.6	15.1	21.5	21.6	19.5	9.3
Alberta	8.2	2.5	12.3	27	28.5	21.3	6.7
Bishops	0	2.3	26.5	31	22.7	16.7	0.8
UBC*	1	3.7	19.5	29	31.1	24.2	6.6
Brook*	4.7	24.4	25.6	25.9	13.3	5.5	0.7
Calgary	0.1	9.6	23.5	30.5	22.3	12.3	1.7
Cape Breton	11.9	7.9	17.5	24.4	16.3	16.5	3.5
Carleton*	1.9	20.7	25.9	26.7	16.8	7.3	0.8
Dalhousie*	0.4	3.4	12.6	21.5	25.2	24.8	9.1
UBC*	0.3	10.8	21.7	31	17.8	7.3	1.8
Lakeland*	11.4	22.3	22.8	21.8	13.9	5.3	2.2
Laurentian*	7	20	26	29	13	6	1
Lebanon*	5.1	17.9	21.4	23.9	16.6	9.8	2.2
Manitoba	0	7.5	12.8	19.1	24.8	23.9	12.9
McGill	0	0	0	7.5	39	45.9	7.6
McMaster*	0	0	17.3	34.6	28.1	15	4.9
Memorial	1.6	29.2	24.4	21.4	18.6	9.7	1.1
Manitoba*	0	0.1	4.4	29.6	33.5	35.9	3.9
Mount Allison	0.4	4.6	17.1	21.6	24.2	24.4	7.6
Mount Saint Vincent	4.7	11	18.3	22.1	24.6	12.3	3.8
New Brunswick	3.5	8.9	29	27.6	20.7	14.5	4.7
UNBC	1.2	10.6	19.5	26.5	18.8	17.6	6.8
UCPE*	4	34.6	28.9	15	9.3	2.7	0.3
Ottawa*	2.7	19.3	23.5	27.3	19.4	10.2	1.5
UPR*	0	11.9	17.4	22.7	24	10.2	5.5
Queen's*	0	0.3	4.4	26.1	30.3	30.9	0.2
Regina	3.9	8.7	14.5	21.6	22.6	20.6	8
Ryerson*	0.6	14	29.9	33.4	14.9	5.2	0.1
St. Francis Xavier	1.3	5.1	18.1	28.1	28.1	14.3	3
St. Mary's	7.1	17.7	24.8	22.9	19.1	7.3	1.3
St. Thomas	0	14.8	21.6	21.6	22.6	13.6	5.6
Saskatchewan	0	4.6	19.2	16.4	25.4	28.7	14.7
Shenandoah*	0	0.3	5.8	26.6	39.4	24.6	5.3
Simon Fraser	0	2.4	14	22.1	30.6	21.9	4.1
Trent	4.4	24.9	22.2	20.5	18.4	7.6	0.4
Vancouver	0.2	4.9	21.8	28.6	25.5	16.3	3.8
Waterloo	0.5	1.3	10.5	23.6	31.9	25.5	4.7
Western*	0	0.8	4.9	35.2	36.1	18.7	2.7
Wilfrid Laurier	0	11.7	25.2	28.8	23	9.3	1
Windsor	3.3	26.2	26.5	21.2	16.4	5.4	0.9
Winnipeg	1.6	14.7	19.9	21.4	15.6	10.7	1.7
York	0.1	13.3	28.4	28.5	17.3	11.8	1.6

Average Class Size

Average class size figures are for under graduate classes in fall 2008. The numbers reflect primary classes, sections such as labs, tutorials and preceptors are not included.

FIRST- AND SECOND-YEAR CLASSES	THIRD- AND FOURTH-YEAR CLASSES
Bishop's	21.2
Bishop's	26.9
Cape Breton	31.3
Mount Saint Vincent	28.7
Shenandoah*	29.7
New Brunswick	22.5
Winnipeg	22.9
Acadia	35.6
Regina	25.8
St. Thomas	36.8
Saskatchewan	36.5
UPR*	39.3
UBC*	39.8
Lebanon*	42.4
Manitoba*	42.4
St. Francis Xavier	43.9
Saint Mary's	45.8
Memorial	45.9
Mount Allison	49.1
Alberta	53.8
Vancouver	56.2
McGill	57
Manitoba	57
Calgary	58.4
McGill	66.7
Ottawa	65.7
Simon Fraser	69.2
York	72.3
Wilfrid Laurier	76
Windsor*	76.2

*Figures are for fall 2007



Visuals, AID: Pathology class at Rochester University

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Proportion Who Graduate

The graduation rate tracks undergraduate students to determine if they received a degree within seven years. Below are the percentages of full-time, first-year students in fall 1999 who graduated by 2006.

UNIVERSITY	PER CENT
McGill	82.9
Montréal*	82.4
UQC*	81.8
Waterloo	80.6
McMaster*	80.4
Wilfrid Laurier	80.4
Toronto*	79.8
Western*	79.2
Alberta	76.9
Sherrbrook*	76.9
Ottawa*	77.2
Guelph	76.9
Bishop's	74.7
Saint Mary's	74.6
Lethbridge	73.8
Simon Fraser	73.8
Lakeland*	73.3
New Brunswick	72.9
Windsor*	72.2
Victoria	72.1
Brock*	72
UPR*	71.1
Cape Breton	70.8
Ryerson*	70.5
Saskatchewan	70.2
York	68.6
Calgary	68.3
Manitoba	66.2
Ther*	65.4
Acadia	65.4
Laurentian*	64.8
Mount Allison	64.7
St. Francis Xavier	64.5
Carleton*	62.8
Memorial	58.2
St. Thomas	58.5
Mount Saint Vincent	58.4
Windsor*	56.2
Regina	55
Brandon	50.6
UNBC	43.6

Student Retention

These figures show the percentage of full-time, first-year students enrolled in fall 2007 who returned to university the following year.

UNIVERSITY	PER CENT
Queen's*	91.7
McGill	92.2
Sherrbrook**	91.2
Western*	91.1
Guelph	90.2
Toronto**	90
Wilfrid Laurier	89.8
Alberta	88.4
Montréal**	88.3
UQC**	88.2
Western*	87.9
Waterloo	87.8
Ottawa**	87.8
Ryerson**	87.4
McMaster**	87.2
Saint Mary's	87
York	86.8
Carleton*	86.7
Lakeland**	86.7
Brock**	86.5
Victoria	86.6
Manitoba	86.2
Cape Breton	85.1
Simon Fraser	85.1
Waterloo	84.5
Nipissing**	84.5
UPR*	84.2
Cape Breton	83.9
Calgary	83.9
Laurentian**	83.4
Saskatchewan	83.4
York	83
UPR*	82.5
Acadia	82.3
Sherrbrook	81.7
Western*	81.7
Simon Fraser	80.6
Memorial	80.5
UQC	80.2
Regina	78.9
McMaster	78.5
Nipissing	77.5
Windsor	77.5
St. Thomas	76.8
Winnipeg	75.8
York	75.4
UPR*	72.4
Wilfrid Laurier	72.4
Brandon	72.3
UNBC	72.3

Out of Province (First Year)

Percentage of students from other provinces, in fall 2008.

UNIVERSITY	PER CENT
Calgary	30.3
Mount Allison	30
McGill	30
Bishop's	49
Acadia	49
St. Francis Xavier	40
UPR*	36.4
Toronto	34.9
Simon Fraser	34
Waterloo	32
Manitoba	32
Victoria	31.4
Carleton	30
UPR*	29
New Brunswick	27.3
Cape Breton	27
Concordia	26
Acadia	25
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
UPR*	24.8
Concordia	24.8
Acadia	24.8
Alberta	24.8
Mount Allison	24.8
McMaster	24.8
Waterloo	24.8
Carleton	24.8
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WHAT YOU THINK

In two major surveys, universities get graded by their own students



HOW DO YOU KNOW how well a university is living up to its standards? As the *Maclean's* university rankings and the pages of accompanying data show, there are many ways to look at excellence. One of the most relevant is also the simplest, at least conceptually: put ask the students. But as the results of two student survey suggest, gauging student satisfaction and educational effectiveness is a complex task.

The following pages contain some results from two major student surveys: the National Survey of Student Engagement and the Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC) and CUSC for short. *Maclean's* also includes results from other, in this section, some universities have completed surveys in 2009, and those results will appear in our annual student issue in early 2010. The surveys, which were commissioned by the universities themselves, ask more than 150 questions about the undergraduate experience—inside the classroom and beyond. The answers help each university assess the quality of its programs and services. The surveys can also be used by the public to do the same.

The U.S.-based NSSE began in 1999 and is distributed to first- and second-year students administered by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research. NSSE is not primarily a student satisfaction survey, but is rather a study of best educational practices—known as “correlates of learning”—and an assessment of the degree to which each university follows those best practices. The survey presents what students are doing while they are in school and on campus. Research has shown that various forms of engagement—both extracurricular and in-classroom—lead to better learning outcomes such as the opportunity to work

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTREAL, across the country, 30,000 students completed surveys



UP TO THE CHALLENGE: UBC engineering students Doug McLeod, Jerrit Neufeld, Karl Jensen and Derek Kurland work on a submarine design.

directly with professors—are likely to lead to more learning and greater student success.

In 2004, 11 Canadian universities participated for the first time in NSSE, with more than 14,000 students completing the survey. Participation has grown considerably since then: more than 790 American universities took part in the 2006 NSSE; they were joined by 47 Canadian institutions, where 71,358

undergrads filled out the survey.

The NSSE results are headlined by the *Rankings of Effective Educational Practices*, created by NSSE to compare performance across all universities—American and Canadian—in five key areas: Level of Academic Challenge, Student Faculty Interaction, Active and Collaborative Learning, Faculty Educational Experience, and Supportive

Campus Environment. Each school's benchmark result was calculated by NSSE, based on student responses to a variety of questions. The higher a school scores on the five benchmarks, the better the chance, according to NSSE, that its students are learning and getting the most out of their university experience. NSSE also asked two important student satisfaction questions: school-by-school results appear on the following pages. In general, smaller universities tended to register higher average satisfaction on both the benchmarks and student satisfaction questions.

CUSC, a group of Canadian universities that work together to measure student success and experience, was created in 1994. CUSC administers Canada's only survey, and unlike NSSE it is largely about student satisfaction. In 2008, 10 institutions took part, including two universities—the University of British Columbia and the University of New Brunswick—that surveyed multiple campuses. Surveys were sent to a random sample of approximately 1,000 undergraduates at each university. Institutions with fewer than 1,000 undergrads surveyed the entire cohort. In total, nearly 11,000 students responded.

Two CUSC student satisfaction questions are featured here. Again, the smaller universities fared better than their larger peers. ■

Reading the results

The charts on the following pages list 53 institutions, including affiliates and second campuses that took part in the NSSE survey, as well as 21 campuses surveyed for the 2008 CUSC. In each chart, universities are listed in descending order. When displaying NSSE benchmark results, universities are ordered according to their survey year benchmark scores. For standard satisfaction questions, order was determined by the personal age of survey participants who chose the highest level of satisfaction. For example, “Excellent.”

NSSE and CUSC include more than 150 questions; we have published results—the five NSSE benchmarks, plus two satisfaction questions each from NSSE and CUSC—that are the most broad and summative of the student experience. The NSSE charts include 41 universities that took part in the 2006 NSSE. 11 universities that took part in 2006 or 2007 and one institution (Uganda) that conducted the survey in 2005. Results displayed are for the most recent of these survey years. Results from the 2008 CUSC and NSSE surveys will be published in the winter of *Maclean's* annual student issue. (No First-year student data is displayed for Royal Roads University; it does not offer first-year courses. Data for the University of Western Ontario does not include three Western affiliates; their results are displayed separately. St. Francis Xavier University conducted a self-administration of the NSSE, which did not allow for the generation of benchmark results. Its NSSE student satisfaction results are, however, on pages 188 and 193.)

You can find many CUSC questions online, along with results from previous years of the CUSC and NSSE. Please visit maclean.ca/university and click on “Rankings.”

How do Canadian universities compare?

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is a student survey comparing hundreds of universities—American and Canadian—in five key areas. The Level of Academic Challenge benchmark assesses the intellectual demands placed on undergraduate students, measuring such things as the number of assigned readings and written reports, as well as coursework requiring judgment. Student-Faculty Interaction groups how often students meet with faculty, or work with them on research projects or other activities outside of class.

Level of Academic Challenge

Per year results... — Data per year results

UOIT (34.4/31.2)
Mount Allison (48.6/46.5)
Royal Roads (46.6/46.1)
Trinity (33.5/33.3)
Trinity Western (33.6/33.2)
Huron (Western) (35/35)
King's (West. Scot.) (40.1/38.7)
St. Thomas (34.3/34.4)
Regina (31.1/31.7)
Queen's (32.1/32.4)
Acadia (31.6/32.4)
UPR (30.2/32.4)
Calleton (30.3/32.3)
NSAC (48.4/37.6)
Ryerson (30.3/32)
UBC (Okanagan) (49.3/36.9)
King's (Western) (30.3/31)
UNBC (40/36.9)
Vancouver Island (31.5/36.5)
Brescia (Western) (30.6/36.7)
Laurier (30.5/36.4)
McGill (34.2/36.4)
Thompson Rivers (49.3/36.5)
McMaster (33.4/36.3)
NSSE average* (32.3/36.3)
Lakeland (49.5/36.2)
Dalhousie (31.2/36.1)
Wilfrid Laurier (32/36.1)
Brook (36/36)
York (31.4/36)
UNB (Saint John) (48.1/35.5)
Toronto (31.1/35.5)
Victoria (30.3/35.3)
Carleton (49.2/35.3)
OCAD (32.5/35.1)
Guelph (49.4/35)
Windor (49.6/35)
Waynes (31.2/34.5)
Mount Saint Vincent (40.4/34.1)
Ottawa (49.6/34.2)
Memorial (42/34.1)
UBC (Kwantlen) (40.5/33.9)
Manitoba (31.1/33.8)
UNB (Fredericton) (48.4/33.7)
Saskatchewan (42.9/33.5)
Calgary (49.4/33.2)
Saint Mary's (44.3/33.2)
Waterloo (31.2/33.2)
Lakeland (45.7/33.4)
Ural (32.3/33.2)
Alberta (49.6/33.1)
Manitoba (40/33)
Regina (45.7/33.1)
BRUNSWICK COLLEGE

Student-Faculty Interaction

Per year results... — Data per year results

Mount Allison (33.6/39.4)
Vancouver Island (32.7/43.7)
Huron (Western) (27/43)
Trinity Western (33.3/43)
Acadia (30.1/43.6)
Thompson Rivers (36.4/43.4)
UOIT (29.3/41.1)
Nipissing (30/40.9)
King's (West. Scot.) (34.2/40.8)
NSSE average* (32.7/40.3)
NSAC (32.6/40.3)
UPR (28.5/39.9)
UNB (Saint John) (27.3/39.4)
St. Thomas (26.8/37.5)
Brescia (Western) (27.3/37.3)
UNBC (25.3/37.4)
Trinity (27.5/37.5)
Lakeland (23.4/37.1)
Laurier (25.2/37)
OCAD (29.1/36.8)
UBC (Okanagan) (24.4/36.5)
Brook (23.2/36.3)
King's (Western) (24.7/36.2)
Memorial (24.7/35.9)
Dalhousie (25.7/35.3)
Western (26/35.5)
Mount Saint Vincent (27.3/35.2)
Queen's (22.8/35)
Ryerson (25.5/34.3)
Wilfrid Laurier (24.4/34.1)
UNB (Fredericton) (25.5/33.5)
Guelph (30.3/33.4)
Windor (25.5/33.4)
Saint Mary's (23.6/33.2)
Lakeland (23/33)
McMaster (27.7/32.7)
Carleton (24.5/32.4)
Saskatchewan (22.3/32.4)
Victoria (22/32.4)
Toronto (22.3/32)
Concordia (24.5/31.7)
Calgary (22.5/31.4)
UBC (Vancouver) (23/31.1)
Royal Roads (46.6/30.5)
McGill (20.5/30.2)
Manitoba (22/30)
Regina (21.8/29.8)
York (22.8/29.8)
Alberta (22.1/29.3)
Waterloo (21.5/28.3)
Ottawa (17.4/27.4)
Laval (16.1/25.2)
Montréal (17.5/24.4)
BRUNSWICK COLLEGE

*2000 average of the 2001 average scores for U.S. Canadian and U.S. universities. Data: Royal Roads does not have faculty class. See "Read up on Results" page 181.

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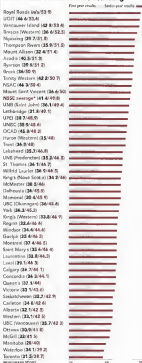
www.ChooseCAI.ca

*Official KPI Results 2008

Does the university follow best practices?

The NSAC survey's Active and Collaborative Learning benchmark assesses involvement and teamwork, asking students such things as how often they work with classmates, make class presentations, or participate in community projects. Enriching Educational Experiences measures diversity and experiential learning opportunities and programs. Their includes internships and co-ops, community service, study abroad, and a campus environment that promotes respect among students from different backgrounds.

Active and Collaborative Learning



Enriching Educational Experiences



* NSAC average is a 2005 average score from 141 Canadian and U.S. schools in Spring 2005. Data does not have first year scores. See "Ranking the Results" page 141.

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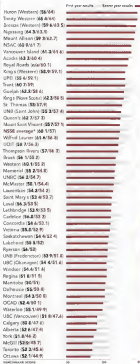


To learn more visit www.fpsc.ca or email us at info@fpsc.ca

Does the campus foster student success?

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) benchmark measures the extent to which each university supports academic and non-academic achievement, and cultivates positive relationships among students, faculty and staff.

Supportive Campus Environment



WITHING This book at Mount Allison (above), students working on a robot at York University: positive relationships among students



2009 RESEARCH UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR*

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It's the ultimate recognition of your outstanding academic achievement. With an entering average of 90% or higher, your tuition at Trent is free.*

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"I had worked really hard for the awards I had attained. When I got the full scholarship from Trent, I was very, very happy and it felt like all that work had paid off!"
Alexandra Lussault, first-year student
Free Tuition Scholarship recipient

TRENT UNIVERSITY

Peterborough & Oshawa, Ontario

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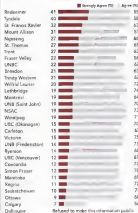


TEARING UP: At Université de Montréal, recent students in the surveys say they are satisfied with the quality of teaching at their universities.

How satisfied are Canada's university students?

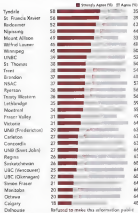
The Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC) is an annual study of undergraduates, with a focus on student satisfaction. Results from the 2008 survey are featured below. Participating universities sent an electronic questionnaire to a random sampling of up to 1,000 students, asking questions about everything from academics to support services. Nearly 12,000 students on 31 campuses responded.

Generally, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching I have received.



Refused to make this information public

I am satisfied with my decision to attend this university.



Refused to make this information public

in the music industry I think for myself

Mike Rapino
CEO, Live Nation
Lakehead Graduate
BAdmin 1989

"To be successful in the music industry you have to be an independent thinker – creative and fearless."

The professors at Lakehead encouraged and fostered my individuality, with the result that I promoted my first events when I was still a business student at the University.

Today I am the CEO of Live Nation in L.A., promoting some of the industry's biggest tours, including those by Madonna and U2. And I still think for myself every single day."

Lakehead
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Like all painters and dancers, Western Fine Arts graduate Simona Atzoni expresses her passion for life through her art. But unlike most of our graduates, she was born without arms. Simona made what she calls the best decision of her life when she chose to study at Western. Since then, her career as an artist and motivational speaker has soared onto the world stage.

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Are you happy with your university education?

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) includes a small number of satisfaction questions—including this one, asking students to give judgment on their university's educational quality. At many schools, satisfaction declined from first year to senior year.

How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?



*NSSE average in the 2009 survey cycle is 34% for Canada and 51% for seniors.

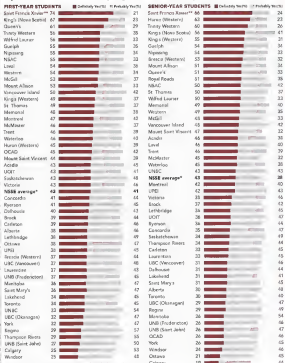
**St. Francis Xavier closed before first-year classes. See "Study the Results" page 14.

†UBC, Thompson Rivers & York did not provide data for this table. See "Study the Results" page 14.

Would you go back to school at your university?

The majority of Canadian university students say that they would return to the university they currently attend. However, their level of agreement declines as they move through their academic career: new students are more satisfied than those about to graduate.

If you could start over, would you go to the institution you are now attending?



*NSSE average is the 2006 average score for 707 Canadian and U.S. universities.

Source: Royal Roads does not have first-year data. See "Leading the Results" page 141.

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THREE PICTURES that hint at the thousands of options available to undergraduates in Canada. (Clockwise from top left) a sociology education leads to a career at the University of Guelph; a second-year design student works with apparel patterns at Ryerson University; swim team practices at the University of Toronto.



WALKERS (A/ANALYSIS) Want to see more student survey results? For more questions from the NSSE and CUSC of university students, and to compare these NSSE and CUSC results to previous years, visit www.nsse.ca/uncampus and click on "Viewing". You can also find college student surveys based on the opinions of more than 150,000 Canadian college students and recent grads. Go to www.nsse.ca/uncampus and click on "College".



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SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY: The number of students is a defining characteristic of any campus—SFU, for instance, is about half UBC's size

The Maclean's Directory

Every university in the Maclean's survey has a unique history, a distinct mission—and its own particular strengths. The student numbers below refer to the 2008-2009 academic year.

UNIVERSITY	LOCATION AND FOUNDED DATE	FULL-TIME STUDENTS	PART-TIME STUDENTS
Acadia	Wolfville, N.S. (1838)	2,927	462
Alberta	Edmonton (1908)	23,364	3,540
Bishop's	Shelburne, Que. (1843)	1,740	525
Brunel	Roules, Man. (1889)	2,156	1,083
British Columbia (UBC)	Vancouver and Kelowna, B.C. (1930)	35,237	15,030
Bruck	St. Catharines, Ont. (1964)	13,689	3,161
Calgary	Calgary (1944)	24,470	3,445
Capri Breton	Sydney, N.S. (1974)	2,327	610
Carleton	Ottawa (1942)	19,048	3,302
Concordia	Montreal (1914)	26,836	8,648
Dalhousie	Halifax (1818)	13,107	2,170
Guelph	Guelph, Ont. (1954)	26,580	2,386
Lakehead	Thunder Bay, Ont. (1945)	6,453	1,215
Laurentian	Sudbury, Ont. (1960)	5,023	2,585
Level	Quebec City (1968)	29,578	11,774
Letbridge	Letbridge, Alta. (1967)	7,013	864
Manitoba	Winnipeg (1877)	25,797	4,971
McGill	Montreal (1827)	24,896	5,744
McMaster	Hamilton (1827)	22,347	3,365
Memorial	St. John's and Corner Brook, Nfld. (1925)	13,479	3,212
Moncton	Moncton, Edmundston and Sipsagan, N.B. (1965)	4,974	1,062
Montreal	Montreal (1875)	36,875	12,852
Mount Allison	Sackville, N.B. (1828)	2,147	114
Mount Saint Vincent	Halifax (1873)	2,702	3,037
New Brunswick (UNB)	Fredericton and Saint John, N.B. (1785)	9,291	2,119
Nipissing	North Bay, Ont. (1902)	5,615	650
Northern	Prince George, B.C. (1946)	2,521	1,150
Ontario Institute of Technology (OIT)	Delaware, Ont. (2000)	5,252	295
Ottawa	Ottawa (1945)	29,322	6,922
Prince Edward Island (PEI)	Charlottetown (1904)	5,432	798
Queen's	Kingston, Ont. (1828)	19,056	3,661
Ryerson	Toronto (1927)	8,436	3,497
Ryerson	Toronto (1940)	19,344	14,550
St. Francis Xavier	Antigonish, N.S. (1855)	4,302	536
Saint Mary's	Halifax (1952)	6,294	587
St. Thomas	Fredericton (1910)	2,477	186
Sekecheven	Saskatoon, Sask. (1907)	14,566	3,032
Shenandoah	Shenandoah, Que. (1964)	13,519	9,954
Simon Fraser	Burnaby, B.C. (1963)	15,045	12,036
Toronto	Toronto (1827)	46,249	6,672
Trinity	Peterborough, Ont. (1943)	6,332	1,452
Victoria	Victoria (1963)	13,679	4,054
Waterloo	Waterloo, Ont. (1957)	26,427	3,385
Western Ontario	London, Ont. (1828)	36,282	4,121
Wilfrid Laurier	Waterloo, Ont. (1911)	13,229	2,546
Windsor	Windsor, Ont. (1952)	12,979	2,725
Winnipeg	Winnipeg (1877)	5,623	3,468
York	Toronto (1929)	42,775	9,214

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music

One moment your guests are enjoying the new Air record, then—yolk—someone's hijacked the playlist BY SARMSHTA SUBRAMANIAN

The hacker usually strikes without warning. He has an iPod stacked with examples of indie/contemporary music bearing a hole in his pocket, and he's in the mood to inject. Perhaps uninvited he has just flown back from a gig at a club in Ibiza, he slips toward the iPod dock. One moment your party guests are enjoying tracks from the new Air record, and the next—yolk, and on comes a labored Middle Eastern melody just when her with a sudden extended Steeles-style rock section, which the hacker—let's say he's the bearded fellow in the corner drinking port—a conspicuously alone in snoring. "Well, I kind of liked it."

allows Chris Church, a violinist and singer-songwriter from Halifax, who witnessed this precise act of musical terrorism at a recent house party. "I was listening. But I looked over at these women with kids who were singing Chas & Dave, and I wondered what they were thinking."

Hacking away isn't an entirely recent innovation—any woman who works at publishing recalls a traumatic operation from years ago when a well-meaning friend pressed the right button on the painfully assembled mixed tape she and her husband were playing at their wedding. But it's a plotline that's become increasingly commonplace at parties, weekends at the cottage, the car, even some workplaces. It has never been easier, or more rampant, to feed one's musical sensibilities on our fellow men. In an era of unprecedented musical portability, we walk around, most of us, without patented soundtracks to our lives—yet to maintain our creative collections—in our pockets. We're used to turning any public space into our own private universe, courtesy of a single pair of earbuds. Is it any wonder that when we find ourselves on the wrong side of the stereo to play a part some turn-of-america jiggles of doom, near an iPod dock that's playing someone that's definitely not our taste, some of us no longer resist the urge to intervene?

Chris Ebbins, a young songwriter and composer, has had his been laid plans foiled that Ebbins recently hosted a party for which he prepared a playlist. "It was all classics: Peter Gabriel, the Beatles, Spring," he says—songs he thought everyone would enjoy. But not long after the evening began, one guest excused himself to run out to his car. He returned with his iPod, and before long, they were all listening to the new Fleet Foxes record—

"which I liked," says Ebbins. But then the party soon returned since an iTunes file, far at, with painstaking care on their accounts and downloading songs they liked on to his computer. The party was an entirely forgotten.

"What damn the hacker?" Sometimes it's a mystery, of sorts. "You love to—if you want to avoid the Latin invasion," insists Sarmishta Subramanian, a self-confessed "thru" based in Toronto. "The Latin music goes on and doesn't come off. Everyone loves it." Subramanian, who recently spent a couple of years studying in Sweden, where the international language of party soundtracks seemed to be Latin beats, unfortunately doesn't share that love. "I have salsa," she says. So she'd show up at parties with her laptop in tow, yes, but sometimes ended their day back—and hijacked every you'd have to physically unplug those Mac and plug in yours, so there's that. "It's very noticeable." Also noticeable was the whiplash switch from salsa to her last. "I would put on Justin Timberlake, disco top 40, crank up—that doesn't go over so well. A couple of times I put on Phil Collins. Easy Listening, C&B, Cherry Lane. People love Phil Collins." Well, I do.

**'A COUPLE OF
TIMES I PUT ON
PHIL COLLINS.
PEOPLE LOVE PHIL
COLLINS...
WELL, I DO.'**

There has always been an art to playing music for a group of people, the job that "Winchester Indian 1915 deleted" the party. From the earliest proto-juggles like Martin Luther King, who spun records on the radio and much their sound as if they were being played live by bands in a ballroom—to today's exotic diggers, this must be discerning collectors and curators of music as well as many social barometers, not to mention all that fancy turntable work with their scratching. Physical skill was part of it, and so was humor and cleverness. A good DJ, says Prince Brinkley, author of *Last Night a DJ Saved My Life*

GETTY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ADAM CHILVERA

and creator of *DjMix* once wrote you, warb things you've never heard anywhere else." Murray of Montreal's *Clubscene* is the 1990s recall legendary parties to which Dj's lugged their crates, each a collection of obscurities and a fiction of a highly individual taste.

But musical skill is no longer a requisite. Many serious *Dj*s now use software like Ableton that acts as the technical (in favour of the truly creative—the professional studio program allows a *Dj* to completely remix a song live). And the MP3 player, holding thousands of songs, has proved a great domestic, giving the rest of us a chance to play as *Dj* (Newsday even gave *Dj*s—though not serious ones—rely on two iPods.) As for personal taste, worthy DJs can have more taste than a cat, an entrepreneur, with the notion that cats have. There are elaborate parties like London's "music genome project," devoted to figuring out just who we like.

The iPod is essentially a very personal map of one person's musical tastes. Only a tiny subset—perhaps a subset of just one—leaves the Stanley Brothers and early Pink Floyd and Stevie Nicks and Yes. So when that play list is broadcast, some certain switching. One employee of *Club Monocore* in Toronto says he's actually grateful for the chain's corporate offer of CD mixes—it beats some of the music he endured in his old job, where staff were free to play what they liked (Tanos for record prominently). "We would fight about the music all day," he says.

The hipster doesn't have it easy either. All but the most musically-talented take a big snarl in making the switch—after all, the self-appointed *Dj* is essentially making the party a referendum on his musical choices. That's a far cry from *Dj* know. "The biggest loss when you learn to *Dj* is that for some time you're in front of a crowd," says *Freight*. "You might have your technical musical skills down but you don't really know how people are going to respond. You're crossing the Rubicon." You never gauge the mood, and choose wisely—argued for formulation, "There's a good analogy between a selfish lover and a selfish *Dj*," *Broughton* offers. "A generous *Dj*, like a generous lover, responds to the crowd and figures out what they want. There's a selfish *Dj* who says, 'that response was'."

The casual *Dj*, it must be said, has lost his love to surprise. Nowdays it usually is a bit of a forgotten gem from Lovehite or Platinum Floss, say. Anything newly derivative won't go over well—as *Dj*s Corbett, found Corbett, who owned the record store *Rash* and *Crash* in Toronto and now works at Soundwaves, has, in his way, reconfigured the whole listening question. For years he

played poker with a group of friends. Never a great fan of the soundtrack for these games, he stepped in with some alternatives. An agreeable message—he has discriminating but wide-ranging tastes, and isn't too broody—Corbett travels in all times with two iPods: one is a *Dj* gigabyte worth of 25,000 up-tempo party-friendly songs, mostly rock, soul and reggae, and the other a 160 gigabyte containing 1,000 albums carefully culled from his mammoth collection.

He accepted to share. "Nobody liked it. People complained," he says, but the alternative—the two *Dj*s' repertoire of Stone Temple Pilots and other 90s-era post-grunge alt-rock—wasn't palatable to him. "The worst are those little albums before *Wish*," *Sheryl* Cane. "I can't stand them." So now, when the music crosses the law, he quickly plugs in his own best phones and keeps playing.

Experts up there understand the iPod. It's usually someone with a little music savvy. In Vancouver's experience, it's more likely to be a woman. "Maybe because they're more organized," she says. "It's in values downloading the music, and bringing it—you have to care enough." Her brother *Vijay*, though, observes an alpha male component. "It's No. 1 goal in control of the music, while others at the party have more pressing priorities" (it's better to imagine). When two hipster types meet, he says, "they eventually have two adventures: guitar banding for position. Fun exercises start as they post their charts and crush talk each other's musical tastes."

Pod guerrillas, like guerrillas, do follow the rules of the social order. *Dj*er parties are lit friends. "You can't do it too early in the evening," says Andrew Johnson, who works for a Calgary investment firm. "But after 11, it's free game." Indeed, just a certain hour or certain parties, there's no hipster—



AN EVENING OF 'SPA' MUSIC ENDED IN AN IPOD GETTING DUNKED IN A PINT OF BEER



KESHA...HAS SOMETHING TO SAY
 MOSKOW in the meaning thing like *P. Diddy* (hey, what up girl?) / look up glasses, I'm not the *Dj* / I'm gonna hit this city (let's go) / before I leave, I'm gonna go with a bottle of Jack / Cause when I leave for the night, I am 'coming back' / I'm taking / products on our faces / I'm / Typing in all our clothes, clothes / from knowing our phones, phones—TAT Tat! from Kesha's upcoming debut album

everyone's gonna be, someone's gonna be / I was so *Lit* or *Acquisition* and on to funny video on YouTube. Johnson has a video the morning after a party with Taylor Swift (black) and the Arctic (which I came to like) downloaded on his computer. It's all pretty amazing, though occasionally they get tense. His colleague *Kim Lilly* can recall an evening involving a fan of *des*, down on someone's table—music that sounded like it came from a spa?—that ended in an iPod getting dunked in a pint of beer.

At the other end of the spectrum, *Umar Malik*, a software consultant in Toronto, has earned the fee-for-albums-on-perpetuity. His stereo is a fully automatic modern machine, the focal point of the party with the iPod hooked up to a large plasma screen TV. The music, drawn from his library, is chosen carefully by his guests. Corbett and his serious music friends, similarly, have a "programmer" on their website away at the cottage that's wholly collaborative; they all take turns submitting songs from their iPods. "People talk about *Lit*, and the experience of mic'ing with the music," says Corbett. "We've found a way to do that with iPods. It's impromptu raised raps made up on the go. You can't do that with any other medium."

Occasionally the self-appointed *Dj* actually takes up the music of the professional *Dj*—a music, amazing musical environments. A club in New York City played host to such a happening last year, when a *dj*-guy and his friend, with a booby flash, took over the *Dj* station. "People came up with requests and I would welcome them, and tell each of them the song they chose was a favorite song of mine," brags the unrepentant hipster. "Then I'd just play the Smiths or the Cure or Sheryl Crowe." That's a confession that those *Dj*s of *more* might, in their way, have responded. ■

STYLING: PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE COLEMAN

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GETTING RID of the way the professional advised Riches can alleviate the physical pain some actors moving around their piles of stuff.

The stuff counsellor wasn't impressed with the kitchen. Better not let her see the shoes.

And her that we saw the cocklebirds and her people over practically every night?"

Chanoyee's approach was very a narrative explained. She'd worked with the sick, skin and psychology. She interviewed people about their relationship to the places they lived, to themselves, and believes that defining a space is important to reveal the hidden and reveal functions, to be an officer and a bedroom and have a piano all at the same time. And I studied that personal of life is good for your health. It is important that primary object of concern, allocating the head along they can ride or the physical plane that some acquire meaning around their piles of stuff.

"Like the stick in the basement," I'd mentioned. "All this waste, because the girls do it so good."

"It's those grassy hollows."

"That they'll be sending a Baker off later of phones."

"Okay. Pine. Some can get rid of all the

COURTNEY LOVE: I'm from a classic surfer fangirl. The 44-year-old actress had an epiphany after she encountered with American Idol winner, 63, who was many cosmetic surgeries away from the "Bride of Wileminka" and I didn't want to end up looking like her." Love said "I really" On second thought, Love added, "I like her. I like her way."



KEYWORDS: child abuse; child sexual abuse; child sexual exploitation; child sexual abuse investigation; child sexual abuse assessment

country: Love has been on plastic surgery fangord. The 42-year-old rocker says she had an epiphany after an encounter with American soccer star Jocelyn Wildenstein, 63, whose many cosmetic surgeries have earned her the nickname "The Bride of Wildenstein" and "The Lion Grrrr." "I don't want to end up looking like her," Love explained. "She looked freaky." On second thought, Love added, "I could do with another boob lift, but no wags."



THE TUDORS, season three: the show has proven popular with TV and book writers—all that sex and blood and exciting moments of glory

How faithful do you need to be?

The Booker winner and a GG nominee take very different approaches to historical fiction

BY BRIAN RITCHIE • The English and elsewhere treat their lineage, or at least their language as Shakespeare's supposed tale, have always loved the Tudors. It's short and tidy (just three generations of rulers), full of sex and blood (Henry VIII and all these wives), exciting moments of glory (Francis Drake) and high art (Shakespeare). Hundreds of popular novels—no mention in TV series—have been set in the period, many of them, author Hilary Mantel is aptly named, chosen to write about "sex and violence and the war between men and women—a lot of cheap romantic fiction." All that goes a long way to explaining why *Wolf Hall*, Mantel's massive novel of Thomas Cromwell, the royal official who managed Henry VIII's first divorce and broke with Rome, was always the favourite to take the Booker prize—bookies set their odds by betting "wagers, not by their literary opinions. It does not, however, explain why the novel actually won the Booker.

The rising question of genre fiction—mystery, horror, romance, science fiction, fantasy and historical, to name the most prominent—doesn't so much divide readers, critics and prize juries as confuse them. The barriers between genres are porous—historical mystery is common—and the line between the genres and literary fiction, which is what is supposed to be celebrated by the prestigious prizes, is in the eye of the beholder. Perceptions can turn on a writer's reputation. Some are who made their name in historical fiction who'd a reader's choice, however good their work, or a booker nomination. Mantel, though, is a well-regarded author whose seven previous novels have settings as diverse as present-day Saudi Arabia and Paris during the Terror. In short, a literary writer who sometimes

mines the past. It helps even more to be Margery Kemmer. Her *Oryx and Crake* is a brutal, fully written, scathing intelligent and pure science fiction. But that didn't stop the Gillies from shortlisting it in 2009.

Most genre work, probably requires an author of *Aeneid*-level stature to reach a prize list, but historical fiction is a gradual climb. Mantel is never thought of as a period piece about an anniversary Scottish king. And not just because Shakespeare's name is attached to it. *Aeneid* all literary authors were the past at some point. *Oryx and Crake* lost the Gillies, but *Aeneid* won that award over prize winner *Alas, Poor*, set in mid-19th century Canada—history (except SF) often then turn to what they think was the writer's aim: in the original literary—its language and style, psychological accuracy, character—or an illuminating a historical era with a rollicking good story? As literary history is trying, in a fashion that repeats history (but delves into), to create a "truth" that the often scanty historical record cannot support.

Kate Pullinger had something like that in mind when she wrote *The Masters of Nothing*, one of the nominees for the Governor General's Award that will be handed out Nov. 17. The novel tells the (fictional) story of Billy Nalder, the little-known man of the very

well-known Victorian traveller and writer, Lady Duff Gordon. The lady does not come off well in the way she treats the coast, some thing that annoyed the lady's great-grandson, Antony Bann, a passionate admirer of military history. He penned a newspaper column on the dangers of mingling fact and fiction, doing a survey showing, in the wake of *The De Vries Collection*, that half of Britons believe the descendants of Jesus and Mary Magdalene will walk among us. Pullinger's response, in a blog entry headed "Historical fiction is a rule? PSH!", was unapologetic: "Surely it is the role of all novelists to uncover the world's stories, the undocumented lines, surely this is a legitimate way to demonstrate and elucidate 'historical truth' in a concept that is itself notoriously unreliable."

Mantel deservedly won her Booker by solidifying all these built-in. A more careful historian than Pullinger, she refused to play games with the record, once saying, "I stick with the facts until the facts run out. I don't try to improve on them." She writes in a pitch-perfect idiom, modern English with a slight archaic overlay, in a beautifully paced historical present tense. She makes readers see familiar events (classic historical fiction) in a new light, through the filter of Cromwell's complex inner life (the modern history there). The result is something new: fiction historical enough for Tudor fans to notice the literary framework, and literary enough for a Booker jury to ignore the history. ■



FINALLY, A BOOK ABOUT... ELECTRONIC ETERNITY
Dorian Olfendick UP, by legal scholar Ianer Mayer to Hongkong, revisits the implications of the Internet's anonymity. There is an awful lot of illuminating material out there, from embarrassing photos to failed states, and, he points out, once posted, it stays forever. Mayer-Schubert thinks that hurts society, by leading to potentially crippling intellectual self-censorship. His solution: what should offer those who use them a choice of anonymity.

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A SNIFFOFF from Jay, NCIS is in the top 10 among viewers 18 to 49. There are college parties where they sit and watch NCIS reruns.

How did NCIS get to be so cool?

Unlike other crime procedurals, this No. 1 show doesn't waste time on how it happened

BY JAMIE A. WEINMAN • Why is one episode of NCIS, a forensic-mystery mystery with a military setting, more popular with young viewers than its more serious *Mad Men*? The ABC spinoff, in which Mark Sheppard investigates crime in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps (Tuesday on Global 8 p.m.), has seen steady rising ratings since it premiered in 2009; this season, it became the No. 1 show on TV and launched an own spin-off, *NCIS: Los Angeles*. But it's also in the top 10 among the 18 to 49 age group, and gains an extra two million viewers from new media fans. Shane Brennan, who runs NCIS and created the spinoff, says that there are even "college parties where they sit and watch NCIS reruns." How did this show become cool when no one was paying attention? Maybe because it's not a procedural like *CSI*, one of NCIS's main, Michael Whiteley, 42, described it to the *Los Angeles Times* as a "breakback to *Baywatch*." NCIS is really a sitcom with dead bodies.

Brennan, who has also worked on *CSI: Miami* (as well as the teen drama *The Hot Chick*), says that other procedurals these days spend a lot of time "pour[ing] the class together in a self-reflexive way." NCIS spends less time on serious and therefore has "more time to develop character." The mysteries on NCIS are sometimes perfunctory or pointless. A recent episode had Agent Gibbs (Donnie Wahlberg) solve the crime at the last minute without explaining how he figured it out; the culprit was a guest character who had only one scene in the episode (and who, inexplicably, confirmed right away). Brennan says that on NCIS, "it really doesn't matter as much what the story is; it's how the character reacts." That makes it different from shows where the character is

secondary to plot twists, or procedurals like *Law and Order*, where topical issues dominate. NCIS has more in common with young-drama comedies like *The Big Bang Theory*, which also has simple plots. Like those shows, NCIS is an excuse for viewers talking out with characters they love.

That means that NCIS spends a surprising amount of its time setting up character relationships or backstories. The most popular moments often revolve around continuing developments in the characters' lives, like the Israeli agent Ziva (Cote de Pablo) trying to become an official member of the group. For Brennan, story arcs are not important on NCIS as they are on any procedural show. "We are just coming up to the halfway mark of season seven and we already know the final few episodes." The writers try to give every character a chance to have what Brennan calls "some kind of emotional reaction to the people they're dealing with, or the crime they're investigating."

That may be why NCIS fans are passionate about the people on the show. Message boards are full of discussions about the whole cast, and any viewer can tell you a character's defining goals (like Ziva's misadventures). "Selfish" war to disband a unit (war) or the necessity of digging into Abby (Daisy Fuentes) to play music at a low-key funeral. The show,

which has more critical acclaim (but fewer 18 to 49 viewers) everyone is secondary to the star: NCIS surrounds Harrison with people who have become attached to him.

It also helps that NCIS has a silly sense of humor. On one episode, it follows a current case of a character with a light comedy (like McGowan, P.J.), and though he left in 2009 after a dispute with Harrison, Brennan has carried on the idea that there should be humor "even in the final act when you're shutting down the bad guy." CSI is obviously not dark gallow humor to break the tension, but NCIS is more like *The Office*, a show that is known for its "comedic humor, humor that happens in your own workplace." Episodes abound with jokes about Gibbs's semi-fetich obsession with Abby, rarely McGowan (Sean Murray) being treated badly by everyone in the office, or goofy bits about the characters' dating lives.

That mix of old-school procedural and young-viewing comedy isn't easy to pull off, and NCIS: Los Angeles proves it: though the new show got good ratings (about a 10 one hour slot right after the original), it's less much of the parent show's 18 to 49 viewership because the characters are not as strong. Brennan makes the most out of the new show as "a 'build an ensemble and then use the characters.' NCIS has shown that a drama needs the same thing as a comedy: characters who, as Brennan puts it, "know how to push each other's buttons, and how to have fun." ■



ACCORDING TO TV: BUSH'S MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH

"Yesterday, former president George W. Bush made his debut as a motivational speaker. Afterwards, Bush said, 'The crowd was so motivated, many of them left halfway through.' —Comedian Conan O'Brien. "Bush spoke for half an hour and said he 'just hoped' his words were inspirational." —Jimmy Fallon. Bush is actually really good at motivating. Last year, he motivated everyone to vote for Obama." —Jimmy Fallon



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For 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 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"We found bugs [on fruit] on the ground, anybody who knew who needed food or had kids, we just went to their place and said, 'Here!'"

Do you mind if we pick your pears?

A volunteer project in B.C. gets fruit that would have rotted to people who need it

BY JULIA ROSENHEIL • Denise MacLean remembers the first time she pulled her car into a stranger's driveway on Vancouver Island, and knelt on the person's door and said, "If you're not going to eat those ripe cherries on that tree, may I pick them?" MacLean used to be a nurse but, back then, she was a single mom on welfare disability, and she knew other struggling families, and here they all were, as the sun set, living in the little Comox Valley where pear and apple and cherry trees grow on every street, and all this fruit was rotting on the ground.

The strange with the cherries invited her in enthusiastically, says MacLean. "We've got tons of stuff here," the woman said. "It was like the Garden of Eden." MacLean recalled the phone call week from her home in Courtenay, B.C. "She had kiwis, walnuts, apples and pears. She was totally overwhelmed. She couldn't find with all a kind of intent and I borrowed a ladder and we picked the cherries first."

It's been 10 years since MacLean climbed that first cherry tree, and with local resident Jean de Galarza and a few volunteers known as the Fruit Tree Project. The group's effort is a network of volunteers who pick fruit off the property of willing homeowners. The volunteers keep a third of the fruit for themselves, give a third to the homeless and a third to the needy.

Since its inception, the Fruit Tree Project has "snowballed," MacLean is on the board of the local USSH Valley Food Action Society. "USHS stands for Us or Share the Harvest," she says. In the Comox Valley, home owners with an embarrassment of fruit can call USSH and have a team of pickers show up who will pick fruit off every tree on the property. "That first year we didn't, we moved

over 6,000 lb of fruit," says MacLean. "Some times it was bringing grocery packages with people. We hang bags of cherries on door-knobs, anybody who knew who needed food or who had kids. We didn't ask questions and we didn't embarrass them. We just went to their place and said 'Here!'"

On a recent blue-bird Saturday in October, Daphne Stuart and her two young sons arrived to pick apples and pears from the property of Al Smith, whose house sits on 1.7 acres. Smith is blind with glaucoma. "I can't see to pick it," he explains, as he stands under one of his apple trees. "My eyes got really bad to the point where I couldn't see the apples about a year and a half ago." Smith called the local food bank, which put him in touch with USSH, which then notified Stuart, who arrived in a truck with empty laundry baskets.

"Off to apple tree," says Stuart, "you can get anywhere between 50 to 700 lb. Each laundry basket can hold five or six apples. I don't even bother with baskets anymore." She typically prunes and stores her portion of the apples. "I make apple sauce. You freeze it. You juice it. You make pie filling. You dry it. You make apple butter."

Stuart heads toward one of the pear trees on the property. Smith, meanwhile, is on his hands and knees, pruning the grass for fallen hazelnuts, which, he says, "I'm gonna eat and

snack." Another volunteer balances up on a pear tree, shaking the branches to pears drop by the dozen. Stuart lowers her voice. "That is the most common thing some sweet old guy who level gardeners, who's taken care of everything but who can't pick it himself anymore. They called him Pringle," she says.

If Stuart sees fruit on someone's property, even if USSH hasn't called her, she stops her truck. "I am relentless." Yeah, I'll go knock on someone's door and politely say, "Hi, I'm with USSH Valley. I just wanted to let you know if you don't want to pick your fruit there is a charity volunteer organization that will make sure it goes to people who need it. I have their number. Also, it keeps the bears away."

This week, MacLean says she acquired, for free, some rare, delicious local quince for making marmalade. The quince tree woman told her, "You know, a lot of mine has rot and mold, would you like some of those?" She went over and got walnuts and hazelnuts, and then the woman in that place said, "You know, I have apples I haven't been able to pick. Do you want some apples?"

"That was yesterday," says MacLean. "The wife I was picking the apple, a neighbour lost one of the trees and said, 'You know, I got all these grapes. Would you like the grapes?' So in one day, I got quince, grapes, apples, walnuts and hazelnuts. This is how easy it is. Anybody can do it. You can do it without money and without an organization. It's important for people to know that."



WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT

LORD BYRON'S LETTERS
A stack of personal letters from bohemian British poet Lord Byron—in which he describes a tumultuous affair with a female servant, betrays the Christian faith, and lambastes his rival as "William Wordsworth"—sold at auction for a whopping \$499,500, setting a new record for letters or a manuscript from a British Romantic poet. The 71 handwritten pages, many previously unpublished, were expected to fetch about \$270,000.

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FRIENDLY and reassuring, an amazingly reminiscent of the guy illustrating the body Snatchers (right) who says you won't feel a thing!

Spare me the therapeutic platitudes

I'm supposed to be happy my room complaint is a growth experience for hotel staff?



MARK STEYN

An extraordinary reality, a few weeks ago I was invited to testify at the House of Commons on the Canadian "Human Rights" Commission. While in Ottawa, I stayed at a certain local hotel; that shall be nameless (the Chateau Laurier). I don't like to complain. Seriously. I do so much of it for a living that I resent giving it away for free in private. But my room was unsatisfactory in many basic respects, and, a few days after I drew them to the attention of the girl at the check-out desk, an email arrived from the Assistant Manager, Housekeeping, which I quote in full:

"I would like to extend my thanks for bringing these issues to our attention. We truly appreciate Guest Feedback, as it enables us to learn and grow from difficult experiences and truly strive to improve the overall Guest experience."

"We have followed upon this and you have ensured that and would like to apologize for this oversight [sic]. Although you mentioned several [sic] such details are an important component of our mission and serve a company-wide standard of consistency" what does that mean translated from the original babble?

A couple of weeks later, Jennifer Lynch, QC (Queen's Counsel) and Chief Commissioner of the Canadian "Human Rights" Commission, came to the House of Commons to offer her own testimony (Section 1). Discouraging specific allegations of abuse of power and conflict of interest, she took refuge, like the Chateau Laurier, in soothing generalities. Indeed, as with the Assistant Manager, Housekeeping, recent difficulties seemed to have provided a marvellous opportunity for a growth experience... just to reassure myself, I can reassure you here today that Canadian can

never be taken and grow from difficult experience? What the hell kind of f***** is so f***** as to think the first thing a dissatisfied customer wants to hear is that he's helped provide a personal growth experience for you, you f*****? Instead, I bawled the manager through the window and then stood wide pondering two alternatives:

Either the Assistant Manager, Housekeeping, is mindless, and that is some form letter mailed up as an issue response for Canada Customer Scenario 773 (b) by the Assistant Manager Customer Relations Film Plant at Corporate 2K. Which is a dispiriting enough thought.

Or the decay of human communication via Magenta pumped blatherings of pseudo-thought-provoking is so advanced that people now talk like this constantly. Which is also an important component of our mission and serve a company-wide standard of consistency" what does that mean translated from the original babble?

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I don't like to complain. I do so much of it for a living I resent giving it away for free.

she spoke to the Select Committee with the same weary fiefdom smile on her face for the full hour. Presumably the function makes her look friendly and reassuring, although never before has fiefdom so eloquently mirrored the guy in the window of the Body Snatchers who tells you in the overly modulated voice that the process is completely painless and you won't feel a thing. My response to specific questions was to freeze the smile and pose just a little too long before replying, as if the Canadian Human Rights Commission was running a bit slow.

Thus, replying to a query as to why the old her colleague had said "no and no" and I'm leaving, I responded in a dispiritingly serene, poised, smiling, and responded that "with a very broad mandate, with a lot of resources,

ing, important and exciting work, we are leaders and catalysts in advancing equality in Canada and in this international" (believe that's the Canadian Human Rights Commission's specific accumulation of modest traditions are intended to send the message "Nothing to see here. All well. Columbia University Graduate School" but the hopelessness is entirely legit).

"The challenge of ensuring the right to freedom of expression and the right to equality and dignity is not new..."

Whoo, hold up there. "The right to dignity" is not one of Canada's constitutionally enshrined "fundamental freedoms" the word "dignity" doesn't appear in the "Charter of Rights and Freedoms," since even the authors of that critically worthless document felt unable to advance with a straight face the concept of state-mandated "dignity." True, as Commissioner Lynch notes, the word appears in the 1975 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but so do many others that Canada's "human rights" regime (increasingly decrepit)—indeed, the presumption of intrusion, equality before the law, fair and public hearing, and of course the "freedom to hold opinions without restriction and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media." At last count, Canada's "human rights" regime is an arch of Articles 6, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22, 17, 18 and 19, so Commissioner Lynch's fondness for the "right to dignity" is highly selective in my least.

But, having embraced this pseudo-right, she then claims no one right trumps any other and neither jabs "balance" nor "competing rights." This "balancing act" is a favourite shirk of the thought enfeebled. Haroon Siddiqui, a liberty defender of state-regulated speech since among his Denver Star colleagues, was among the other day about balancing "free speech" vs. "freedom from hate."

One of these is a real right. The other is a

model one. As I said in my own testimony to Parliament:

"The first, the senior content of the CHRC, has been that the commission is committed to the abolition of 'hate'—not hate crimes, not hate speech, but hate. Here is a human emotion, it seems, so one degree or another, is every heart. It is part of what it means to be human... To hate is to be free, and when the alternative is a coercive government bureaucracy regulating what you can say, then as Michael Ignatieff would be the first to point out, you are no longer free. I am with Mr. Ignatieff on that."

Yes, well. I've said clear whether Mr. Ignatieff will with Mr. Ignatieff on that, but that's for him and his co-conspirator to wrestle with. It's tempting to give Moore. Free and fair elections, and at least allow that "freedom from hate" is an undeniably desirable goal. But it isn't. It's explicitly outlawed in the *Norfolk Island*, the other day, the 67-year-old wife of a 31-year-old man wrote a letter to her local council asking some politely expressed objections to the (publicly funded) Gory Pope parade and system was issued by two police officers who informed her that her letter "was thought to be an invasion of state 'An invasion of state'."

In 1956, Philip K. Dick's sci-fi story "The Minority Report" introduced the dystopian notion of "pre-crime." Half a century on, some of the oldest constitutional democracies on the planet are embracing the concept ever more openly. As Commissioner Lynch plainly notes, "This approach to creating a harmonious society is not our alone."

I don't want to live in state-regulated "harmony." Not particularly. I have a long opinion of Jennifer Lynch, Haroon Siddiqui et al., and that has no exception of singing harmony to their tangled tune. I don't think they should have to harmonize with crime, either. As just another academic's blather, when they're up here of governance colleges or at explaining you to your harmony, if you're allowed to

MACLEAN'S
BESTSELLERS
COMPILED BY STEVE BETHUNE

Fiction

1	TOO MUCH HAPPINESS by Alice Munro	1 (00)
2	THE LOST SYMBOL by Dan Brown	2 (15)
3	LAST NIGHT IN TWISTED RIVER by John Irving	3 (15)
4	THE SHALOM HEIM by Annette Lyle	5 (40)
5	THE YEAR OF THE FLOOD by Margaret Atwood	7 (40)
6	SHALOM by Michael Ondaatje	10
7	AND ANOTHER THING by Dan Brown	4 (15)
8	THE MUSEUM OF INNOVATION by Peter Dinklage	6 (15)
9	THE SHALOM HEIM by Annette Lyle	10 (40)
10	THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE by Stey Linton	8 (00)

Non-fiction

1	A SOLDIER'S STORY by Bob Miller	1 (00)
2	THE DEAREST THING ON EARTH by Richard Dawkins	2 (15)
3	JUST WATCH ME by John Dugan	3 (15)
4	THE EARTH FOR GOD by Eric S. Galt	4 (80)
5	THE CLASSIC by John Dugan	5
6	WHY THE WORLD IS by Michael Ondaatje	6 (15)
7	D-DAY by Anthony Browne	7 (40)
8	THE COLD BATTLE by Eric S. Galt	8 (15)
9	THE COMPASS by Eric S. Galt	9 (40)
10	OUTLINES by Michael Ondaatje	10 (40)

LAST WEEK'S BESTSELLERS

ON THE WEB: For book reviews, feature articles, interviews and recommendations, visit our website. Check out our new "Book Club" in Maclean's.ca/books

ang is a copy of my life. It's the World and the World of the World. Language itself does, until public communication is reduced to Commissioner Lynch's initial babble and the Assistant Manager, Housekeeping's therapeutic platitudes. Without speech is the heart of not-giving experience. It's a shattering experience.

"Balance" such as the "freedom from hate" is a very language is being not terror into compliance. Commissioner Lynch's performance is a preview of a world in which public discourse is conducted only in fraudulent abstractions and euphemisms: evasions. Don't buy. When a government approach tells you she's busy creating a "harmonious society," she's not playing your song. ■

PAUL LESLIE WENTZELL

1989-2009

With the mine mechanic's job and the pickup he'd always wanted, he was living the dream

Paul Leslie Wentzell was born on Aug. 15, 1970, to Pauline, a housekeeper, and Leslie, a mining superintendent. He grew up in Daniel's Harbour, a remote, coastal fishing village on Newfoundland's Northern Peninsula. Paul, the baby, came nine years after his only sibling, Ryan, his idol. By the time he was in a first grade in any Holy Cross All-Grade [there were no more than a few students in each year], Ryan was already working on getting his driver's licence. Still, they were tight.

Paula Hancock, a neighbour, recalls seeing them walking home for lunch around that time. Ryan, who was holding his little brother's hand, looked down to say something as she drove past. Paul, who was gentle and fair-haired, looked up with "all the love in his little heart," flashing him "the sweetest smile."

From the start, Paul showed a keen interest in engines. He'd pick apart anything he could get his hands-on—old motor lawnmowers, snowmobiles—even running a power cord to the shed so he could work after dark. By 15, Paul, a tireless worker, was a fixture at Humber's Garage, peering over mechanic Ross Humber with questions between brake jobs. "Some guys are natural-born engineers," says Rob. "Paul was a natural-born mechanic."

After high school graduation in 1989, Paul shipped out to Smith Hill, Alaska, for the summer. TJM Offshore Services had hired him as a shipboard, as wash rig and change team. "He came off the plane in June, went straight to work the next morning, and didn't take a day off the entire summer," someone pulling off boat shifts, recalls. Eventually a family friend who put him up. Paul's heart was not on a Third J-150, Diamond's epitaph from their hogback at the ship brought him one step closer to the job, which he brought to his dream on Newfoundland in August. Career fad, Paul flew home to begin a heavy equipment mechanic training program in the College of the North Atlantic. In the same he finished in April 1993, however, the economy had ground to a halt. No one was hiring mechanical apprentices. "Well, no problem," said Leslie, who worked for Procon Mining and Tunneling on van on oilfields projects across the country. "I'll call the shop in Edmundston."

Soon enough, Paul was Albert's hand—this time, for good. On May 5, 2005, he began his career with Procon at the Nikoia sub-

near Edmundston, fixing compressors, undergirding drills and sooty tubes (dump trucks designed for mines), Pauline shipped out his toolbox and his pickup.

At five o'clock, he'd trade his hard hat for a ball cap, and he still favored the navy blue Dickies work pants he'd been buying from Wal-Mart since he was a teen. "If you want to find a girlfriend," his friend Danny warned, "you need decent new clothes." She took him shopping, rating him up like a goat. He even started putting gel in his hair. But his big hands were permanently nicked and grossed-out, and he had an appetite like a horse (he could put away six pork chops for dinner). He loved TV and spent every Friday, Monday night, at the Wagons, the local bar.

He remained tied to his family. Some guys decorate their toolboxes with pin-ups, but Paul had tacked a single photo to the upper-right hand corner of his: his niece Alyssa, in a pink dress. He phoned Pauline every night, no matter where he was dispatched, Yukon or Yellowknife, and spent his two-week summer holidays in Newfoundland working with Roman's Incoastage. For the first time, says Ryan, a cousin with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, they were equals, men.

Back at Procon, Paul's 12-hour shifts began at 5:45 a.m. with a 10-minute safety meeting, every body dressed to go underground in hard hats, coveralls and steel-toed boots. The last thing the firm was always said was, "Everybody have a safe shift?" The before any body got up, moved, or turned around, they'd wait for Paul, who always added, "And then he drives." The mine's job, the pickup, it was all he'd ever wanted. After a year, Paul still had a round with his chest up and a grin from ear to ear, the look on a guy on ice.

On Oct. 29, Paul was working in a six-meter mine, northeast of Whitehorse. He loaded a Toyota Land Cruiser with a needle for a pressure hose, and drove down into the mine tunnel, parking on a 15 per cent grade. As he walked toward the underground crew, the brakes suddenly failed, and he was run over by the unoccupied truck. On the flight to hospital, Paul succumbed to internal injuries. He was 29. His funeral still wraps up every safety meeting by asking the miners a safe shift. Before anybody got up, one will add: *And live the dream.*

BY NANCY MACDONALD



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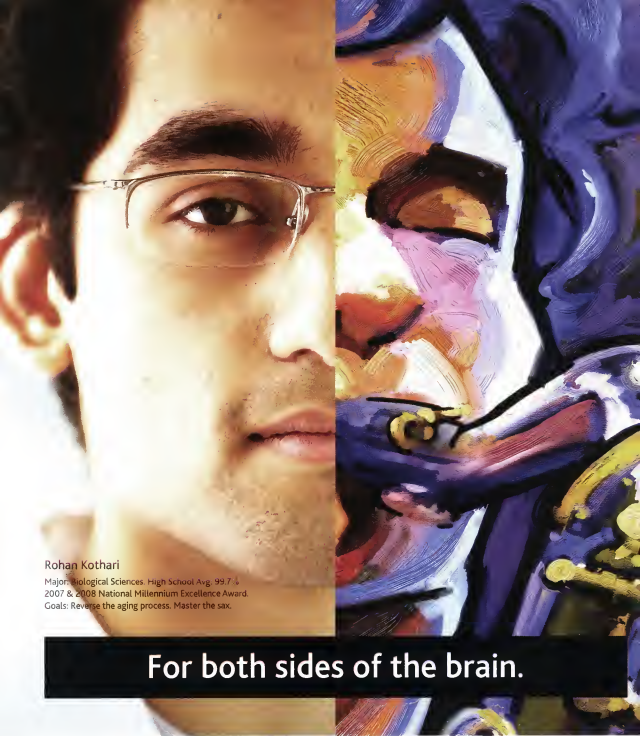


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